

MARVEL
COMICS
GROUP **12¢**

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

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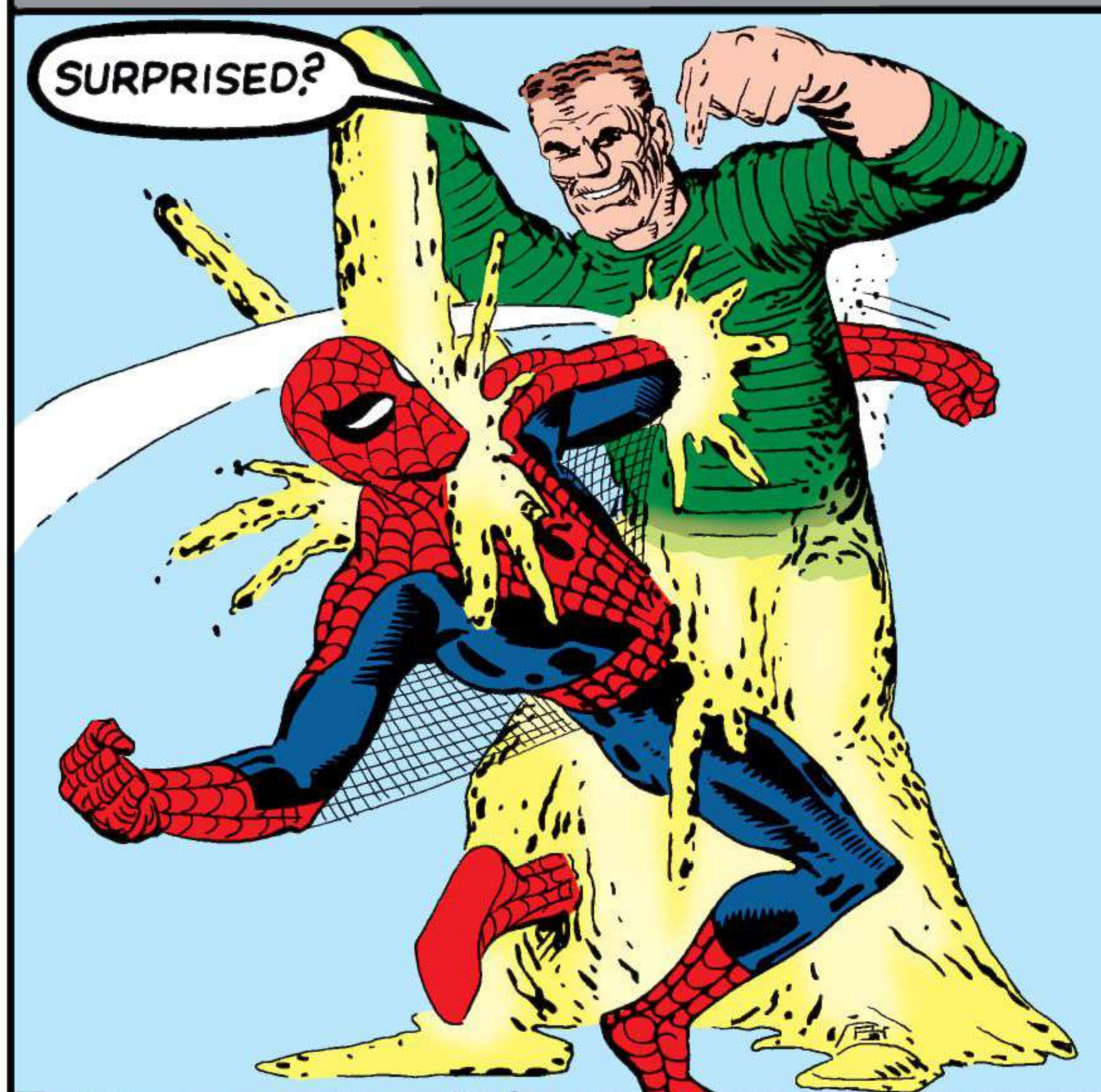


SPIDER-MAN!

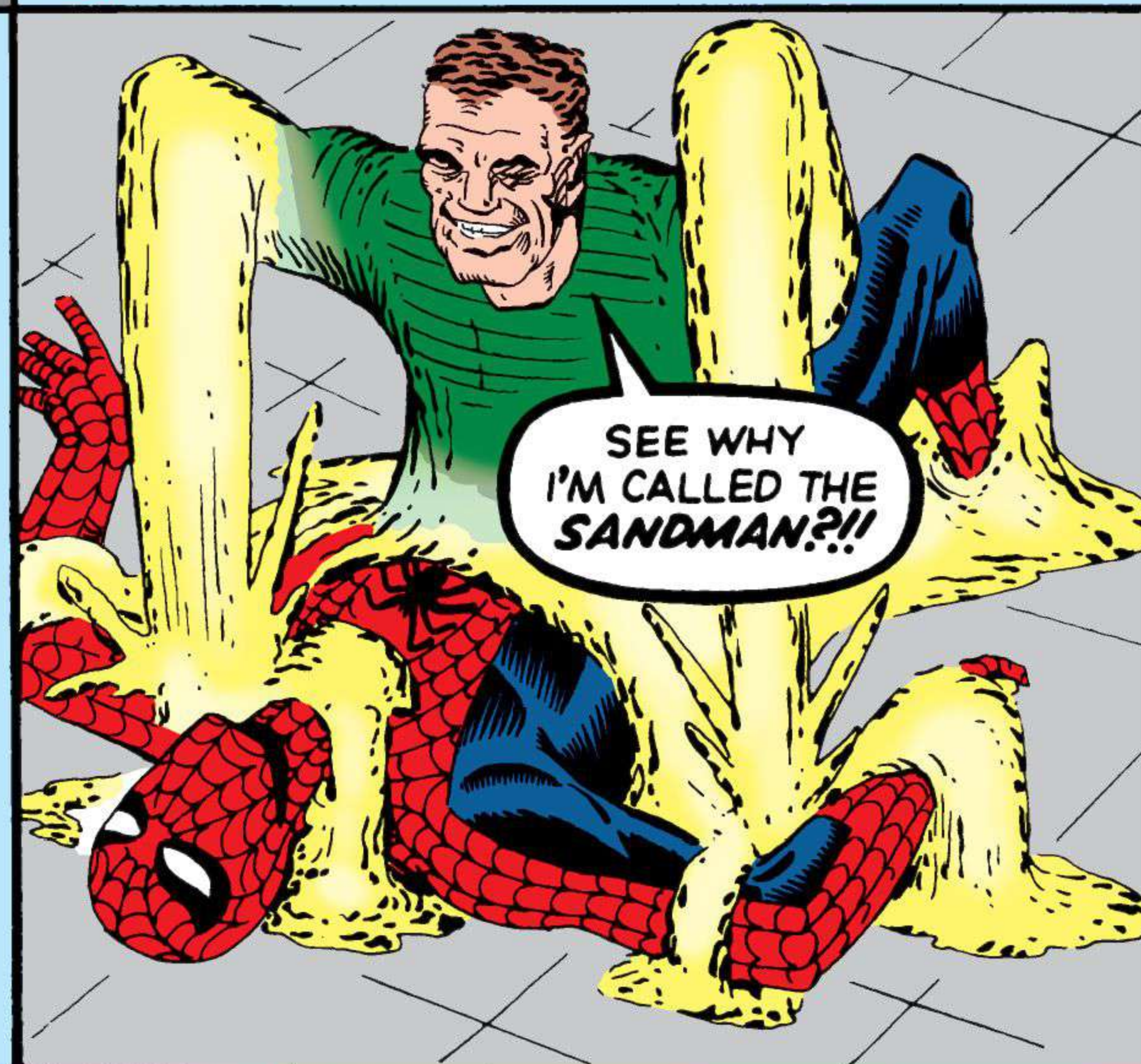


NOW I'VE
GOT YOU!

HEY!
WHA--?



SURPRISED?



SEE WHY
I'M CALLED THE
SANDMAN?!!

HOW CAN SPIDER-MAN
DEFEAT A FOE WHO
CANNOT BE INJURED??
DON'T DARE MISS.....

**"NOTHING CAN STOP..
THE SANDMAN!"**



"NOTHING CAN STOP... THE SANDMAN!"



IN THE SPACE OF ONLY THE FIRST THREE ISSUES, YOU READERS HAVE MADE **SPIDER-MAN** ONE OF THE GREATEST, MOST PHENOMENAL SUCCESSSES IN THE HISTORY OF SUPER CHARACTERS! AND NOW, WITH THIS RECORD-BREAKING FOURTH ISSUE, **SPIDER-MAN** SOARS TO STILL GREATER HEIGHTS AS HE BATTLES THE MOST FANTASTIC FOE OF ALL! SO, SETTLE BACK FOR THE THRILL OF YOUR LIFE--THE FATEFUL MOMENT WHEN **SPIDER-MAN** MEETS--THE **SANDMAN**!

by
Stan Lee
+
STEVE
DITKO

KNOW WHAT NEW YORK'S BIGGEST TOURIST ATTRACTION IS? GRANT'S TOMB? EMPIRE STATE BUILDING? NOPE! IT'S A COLORFUL CRIME-FIGHTER NAMED **SPIDER-MAN!**

LOOKS LIKE OL' J. JONAH IS STILL GUNNIN' FOR ME IN HIS PAPER! SOME GUYS JUST **NEVER** GIVE UP!

"The SPIDER-MAN MENACE!"
A NEW SERIES BY
J. JONAH JAMESON
STARTING TODAY IN THE DAILY BUGLE

WELL! WELL! IF I EVER SAW THREE PUNKS CASIN' A JEWELRY STORE, I SEE IT **NOW!**

I WAS **RIGHT!** NO SOONER DOES THE PROPRIETOR LOCK UP FOR THE NIGHT AND HEAD FOR HOME, THEN THEY START SNEAKIN' UP TO THE PLACE!

HEY! WHAT'S GOIN' ON??

WHO'S THE WISE GUY?

IT FEELS LIKE A PIECE OF **WEB** DROPPED DOWN ON US! BUT... WHO...?

WELL, IT'S NOT DR. KILDARE!

SPIDER-MAN! WE'RE **SUNK!**

SHUDDUP, STUPID! I'LL HANDLE THIS!

IF YOU'RE THINKIN' OF PUTTIN' UP A **FIGHT**, BROTHER, LET ME WARN YOU...

A FIGHT? THE ONLY FIGHT I'LL PUT UP IS IN **COURT!** I'M SUIN' YOU FOR ASSAULT AND BATTERY, AND I GOT WITNESSES TO **PROVE** IT!

YEAH, THAT'S **RIGHT!**

THERE'S NO LAW AGAINST THREE HONEST CITIZENS WALK-IN' IN THE STREET AT NIGHT! THEN **YOU** COME SWOOPIN' DOWN ON US, SCARIN' US OUTTA OUR WITS! YOU'RE A **MENACE**... JUST LIKE J. JONAH JAMESON SAYS!

HE'S **RIGHT!** I WAS A **FOOL!** I SHOULD HAVE WAITED TILL THEY BROKE INTO THE STORE! **NOW** I'VE NO EVIDENCE!

DON'T YOU FEEL LIKE A **JERK**, PARADIN' AROUND IN PUBLIC IN THAT GET-UP??

A **FINE** WAY TO TALK TO A SUPER-HERO! BUT WHAT CAN I **DO** ABOUT IT?

HEY, LET'S SWEAR OUT A WARRANT AGAINST **SPIDER-MAN!** I'LL CALL A COP! **HELP, POLICE!**

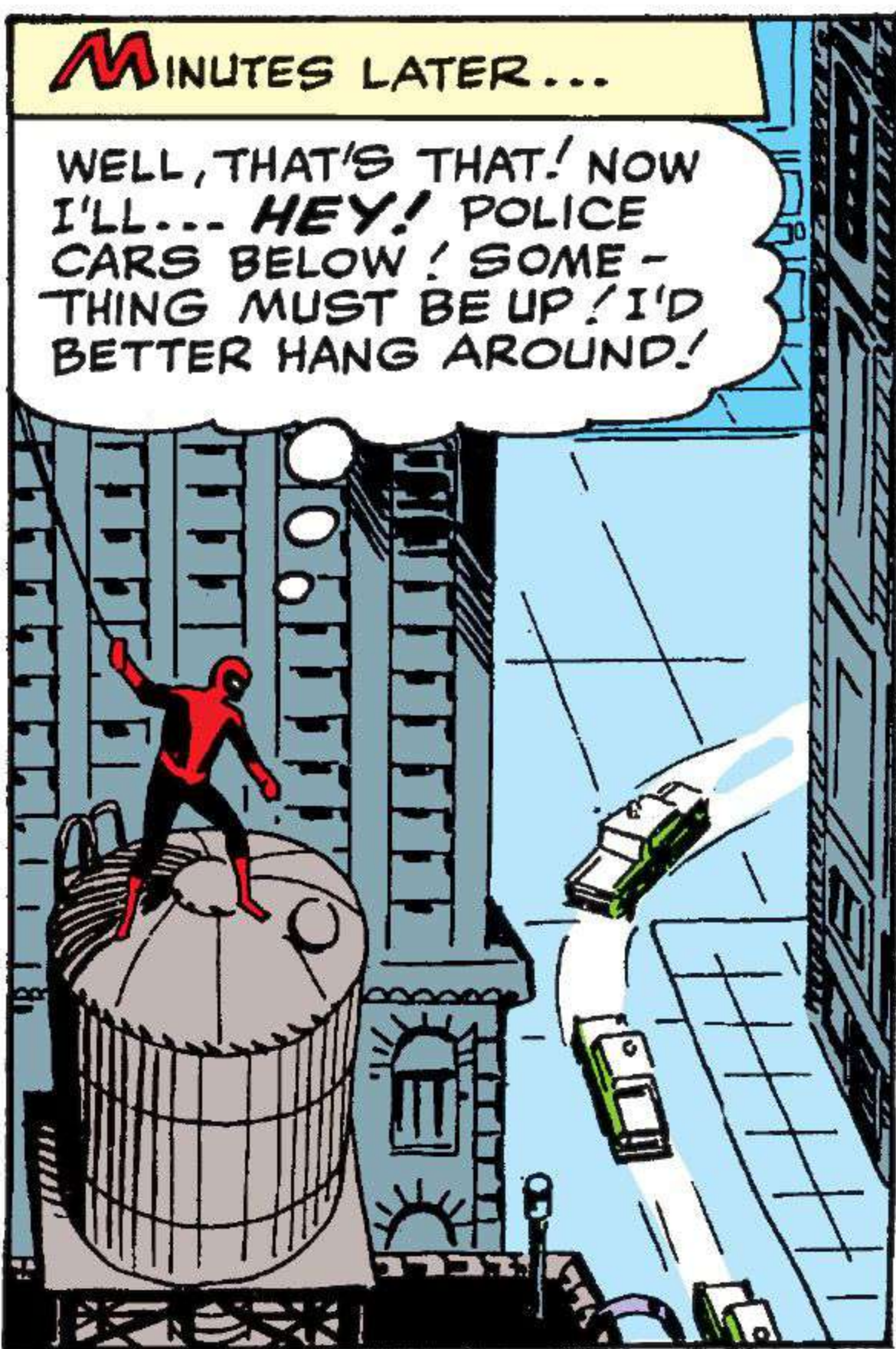
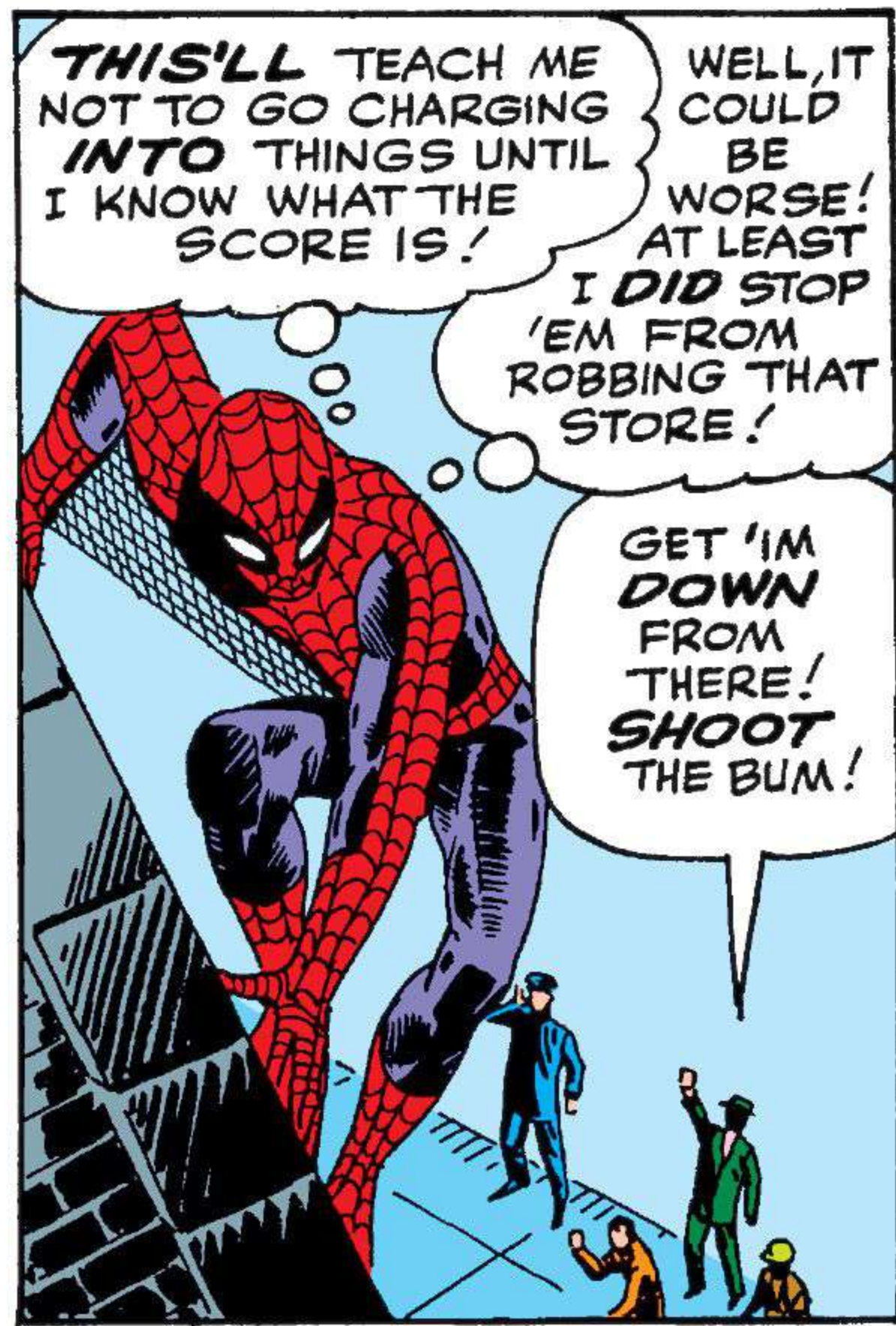
THIS IS **BATTY!** THEM CALLING FOR HELP AGAINST **ME!**

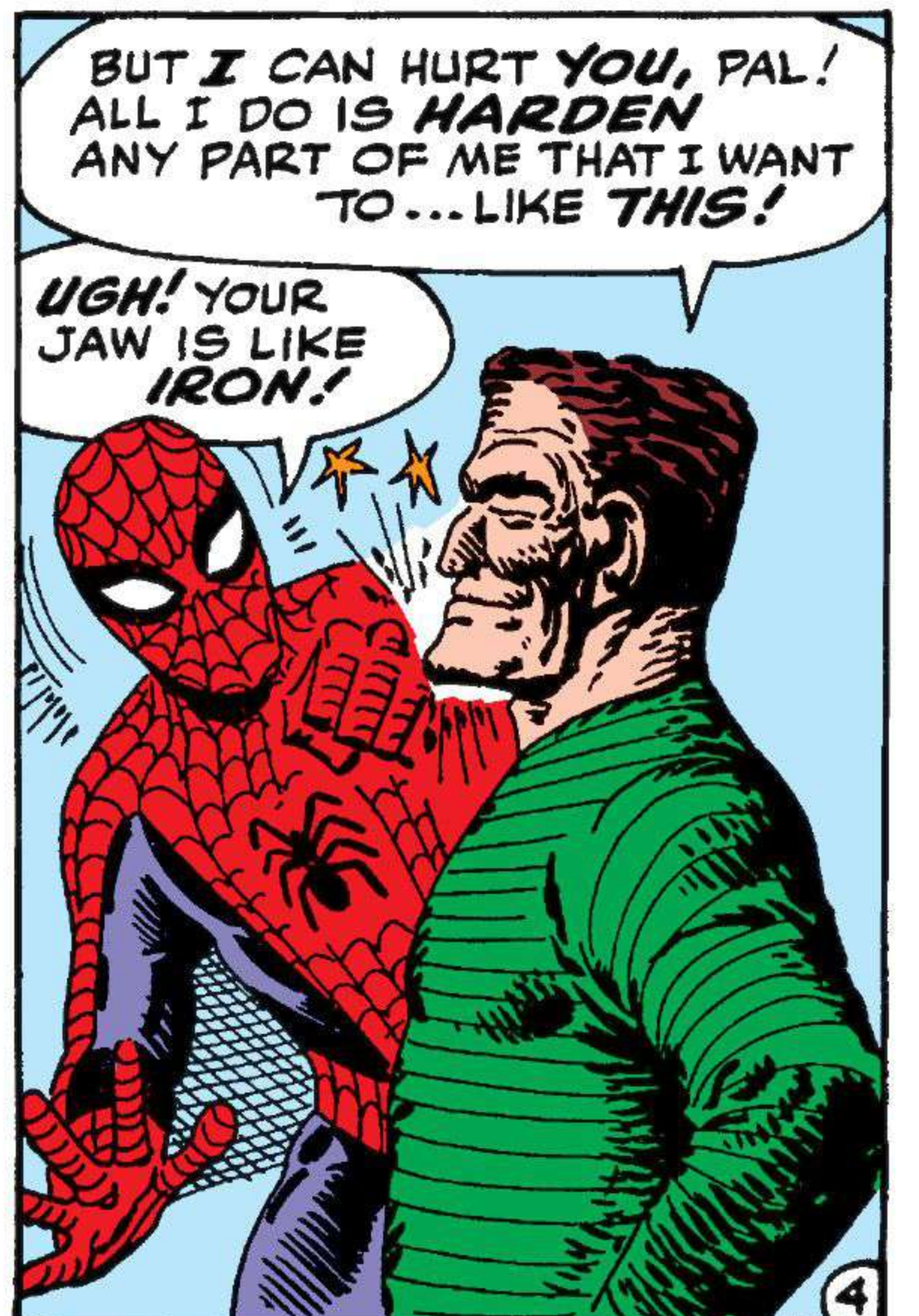
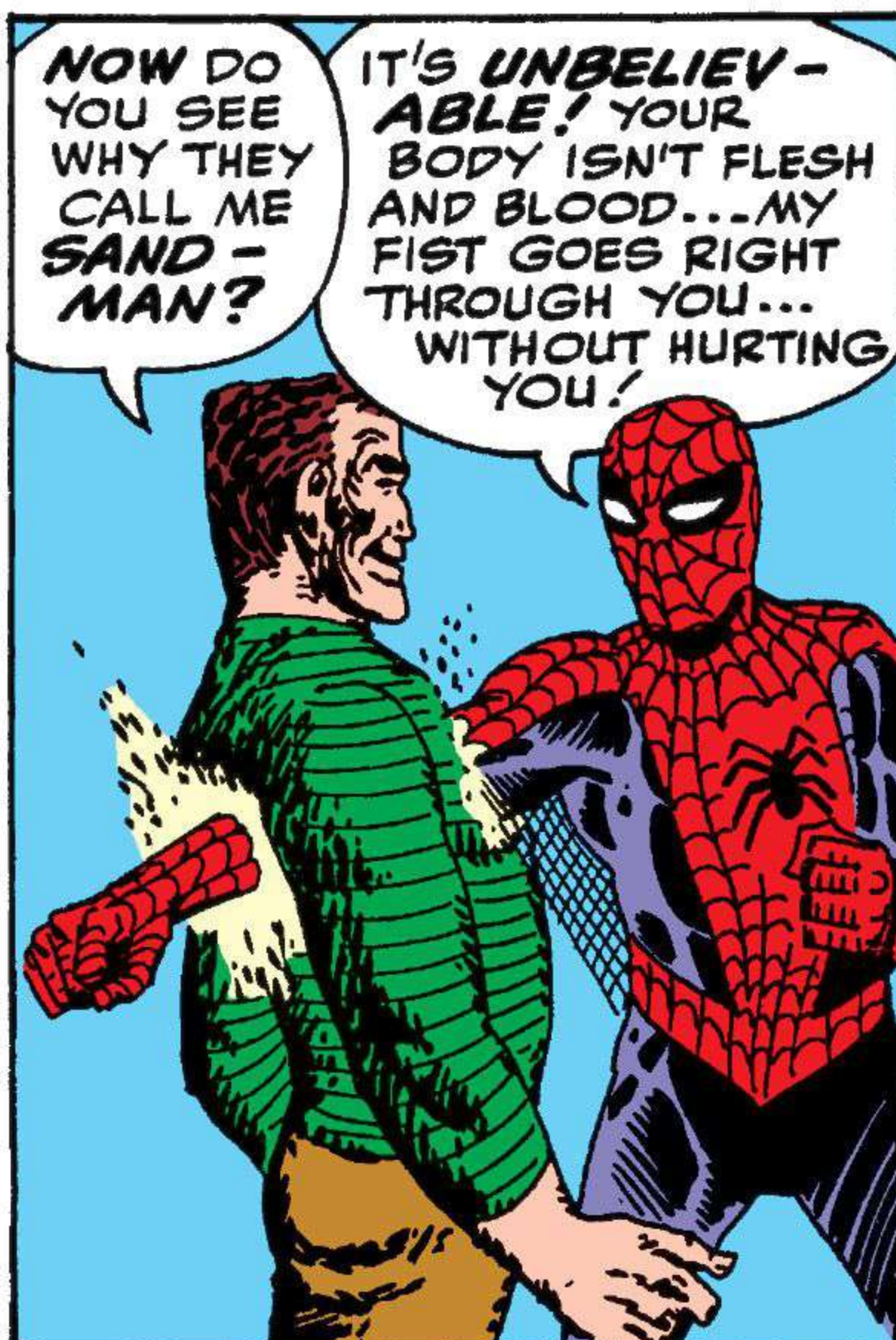
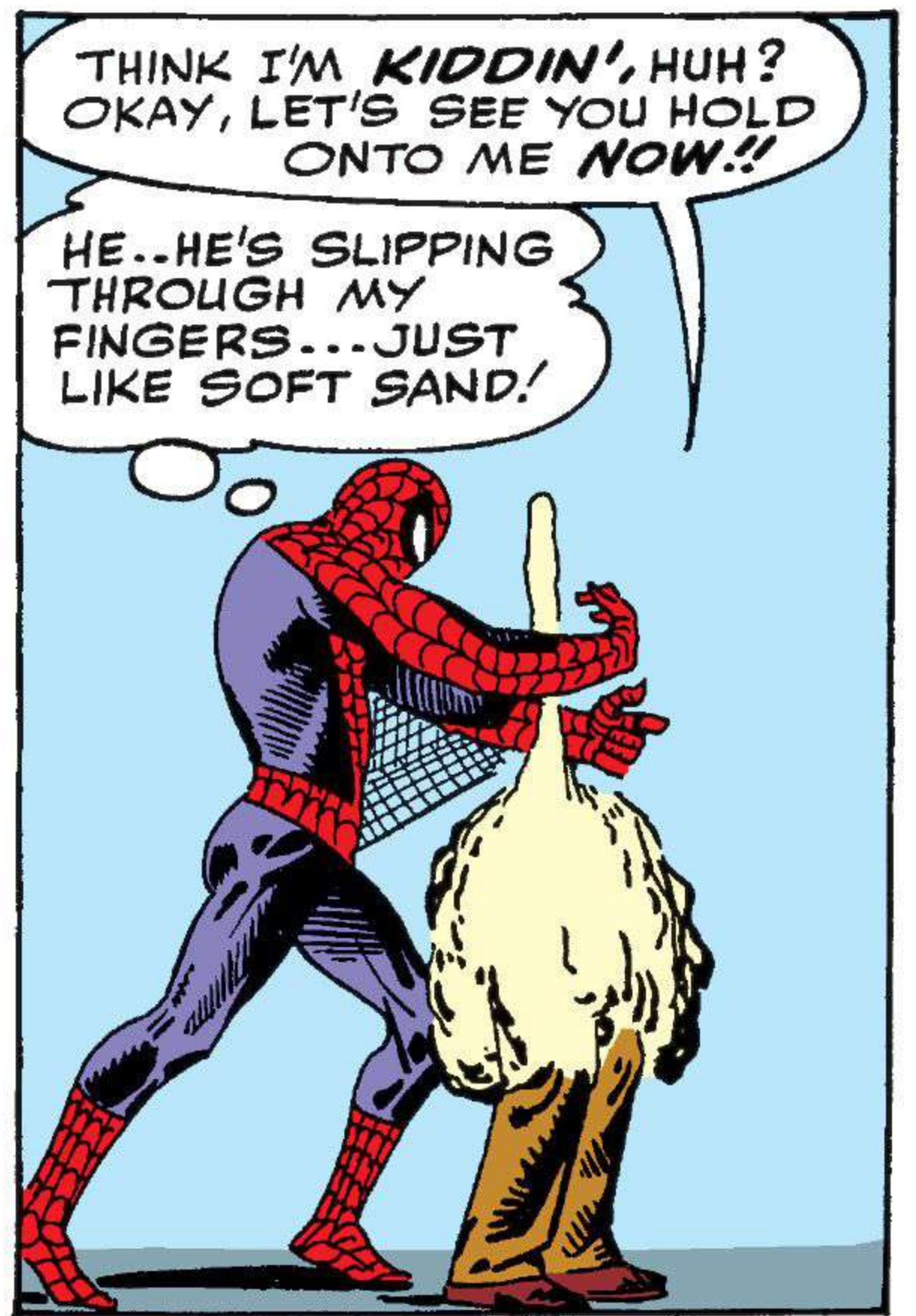
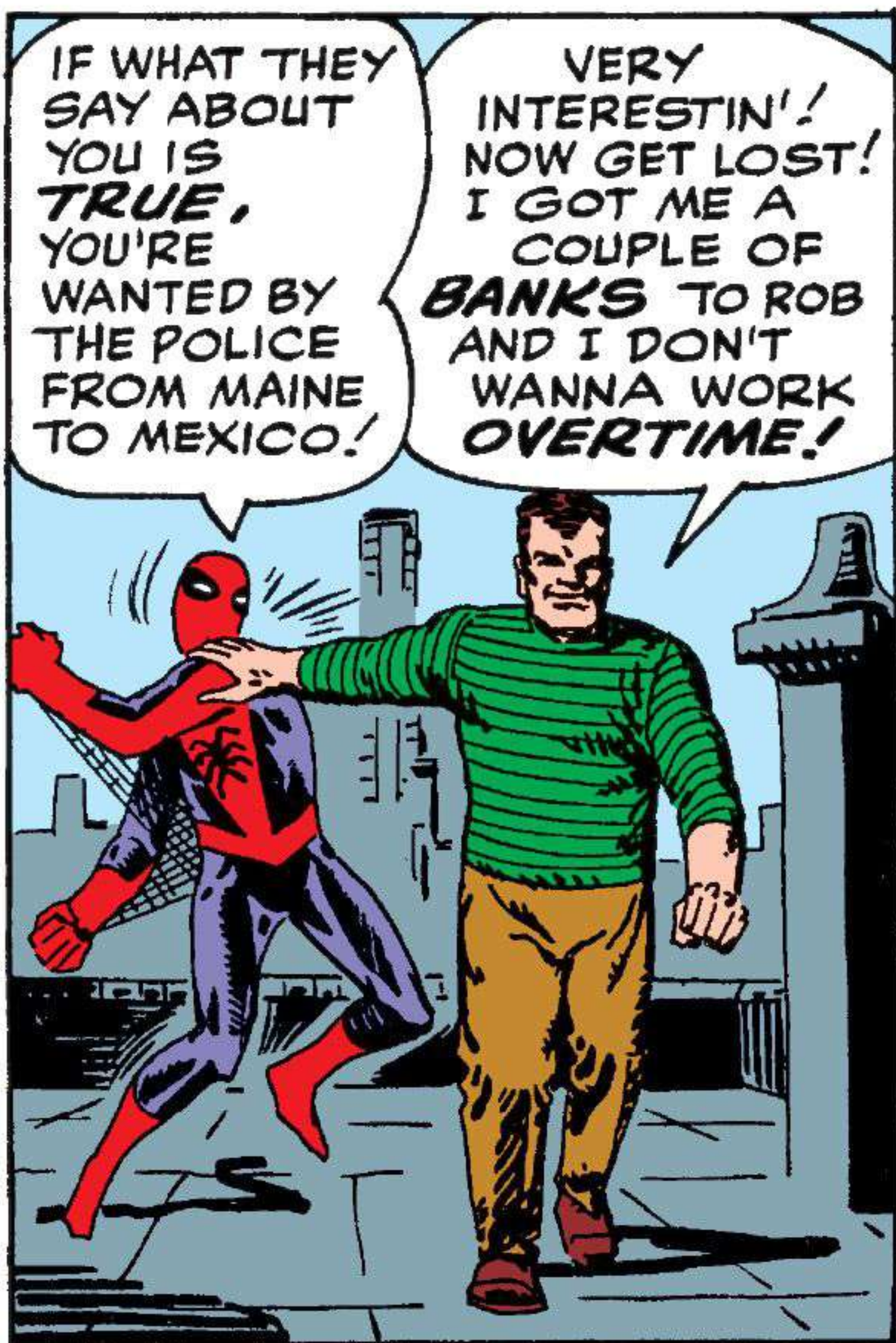
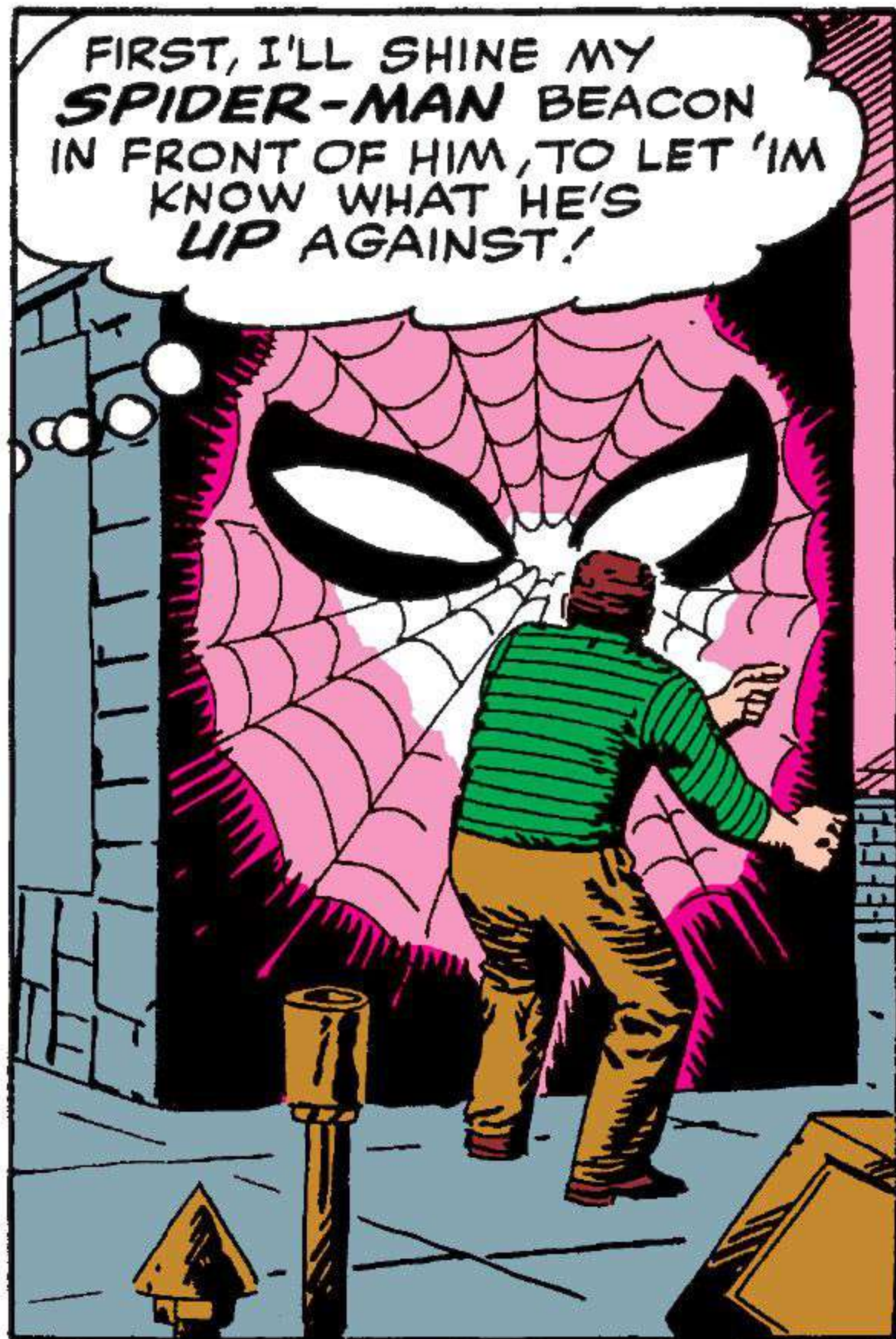
POLICE!!

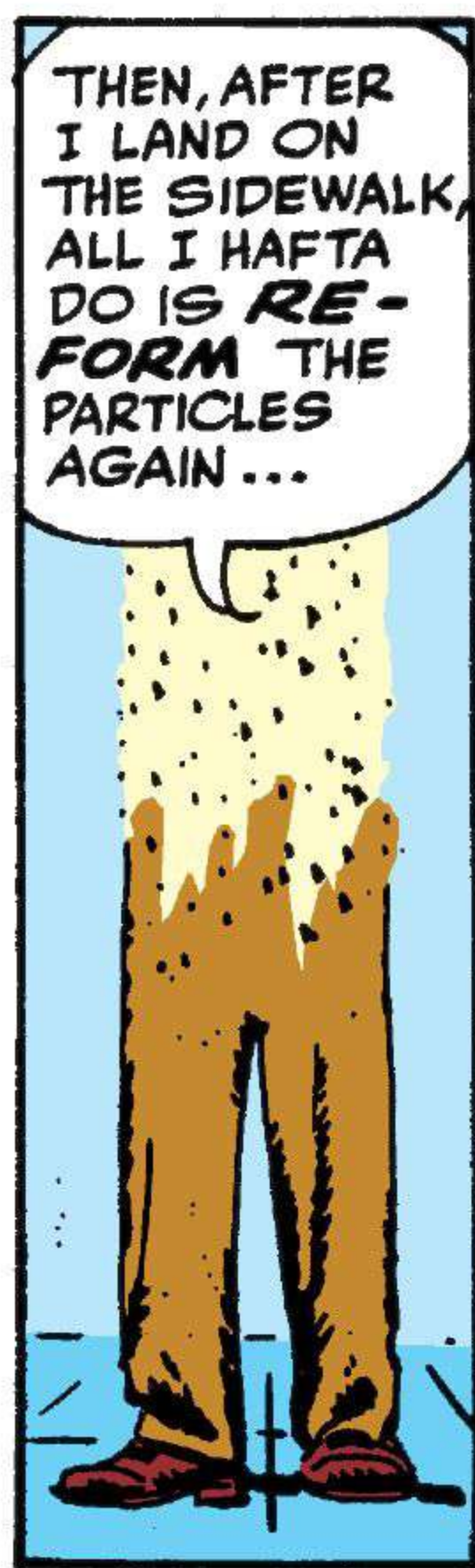
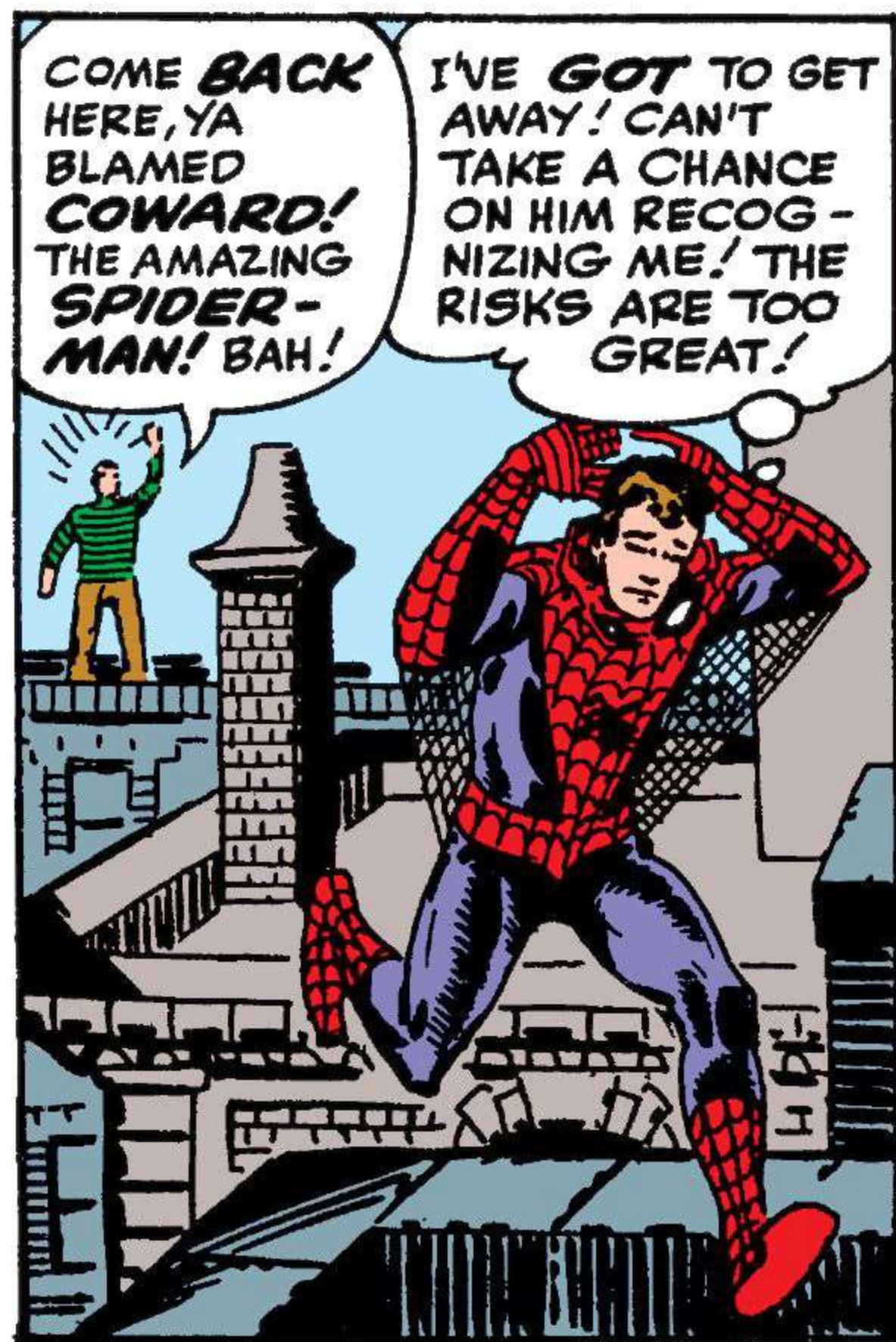
BOY, YOU NEVER CAN GET A COP WHEN YOU **WANT** ONE!

WE'LL **HELP** YA! HEY, **POLICE!**

I SEE ONE COMIN' **NOW!**







REACHING THE BANK, **SANDMAN** REFORMS THE PARTICLES OF HIS INDEX FINGER INTO THE SHAPE OF A BLANK **KEY**...

THIS IS EASIER THAN USIN' BURGLAR TOOLS!

INSERTING HIS FINGER INSIDE THE LOCK, THE "KEY" TAKES THE EXACT SHAPE OF THE LOCK ITSELF, ENABLING IT TO MOVE THE TUMBLERS, THUS OPENING THE DOOR!

CLICK!

ONCE INSIDE THE BANK, **SANDMAN** THEN SLIDES ALONG THE FLOOR, SLITHERING UNDER THE ELECTRIC EYE BARRIER WITHOUT SETTING OFF AN ALARM!

UNTIL...

SO FAR SO GOOD! NOW TO TACKLE THE MAIN VAULT ITSELF!

MEANWHILE, AT THE HOME OF **PETER PARKER**, HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE MAJOR... WE FIND PETER, ALIAS **SPIDER-MAN**, WRESTLING WITH AN UNUSUAL PROBLEM FOR A SUPER-HERO...

IF **THIS** DOESN'T TAKE THE CAKE!! I CAN'T GO OUT IN PUBLIC AS **SPIDER-MAN** UNTIL MY MASK IS SEWN UP, AND WHEN IT COMES TO SEWING, I'M ALL **THUMBS**!

THIS IS **RIDICULOUS**! I'M NO COTTON-PICKIN' **SEAMSTRESS**!! BUT I'VE GOT TO DO IT **MYSELF**!

I CAN'T WALK INTO A TAILOR SHOP AND SAY "SEW UP MY **SPIDER-MAN** SUIT, PLEASE" WITHOUT MAKING SOMEBODY JUST A LITTLE SUSPICIOUS ABOUT WHO I AM!

OUCH! DARN NEEDLE! WISH I COULD ASK AUNT MAY, WITHOUT AROUSING HER SUSPI-- **HEY!** WHAT'S **THIS??**

WE BRING YOU A SPECIAL BULLETIN! THE DREADED **SANDMAN** HAS BEEN REPORTED IN OUR CITY!

"FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO ARE UNFAMILIAR WITH **SANDMAN'S** BACKGROUND, CHANNEL 17 PRESENTS THIS BRIEF SUMMARY: A FEW MONTHS AGO HE WAS AN INMATE AT ISLAND PRISON..."

"KNOWN AS FLINT MARKO, HE WAS THE MOST INCORRIGIBLE PRISONER AT THAT MAXIMUM SECURITY JAIL! THEN, ONE NIGHT, HE ESCAPED THRU AN UNGUARDED DRAINAGE TUNNEL!"

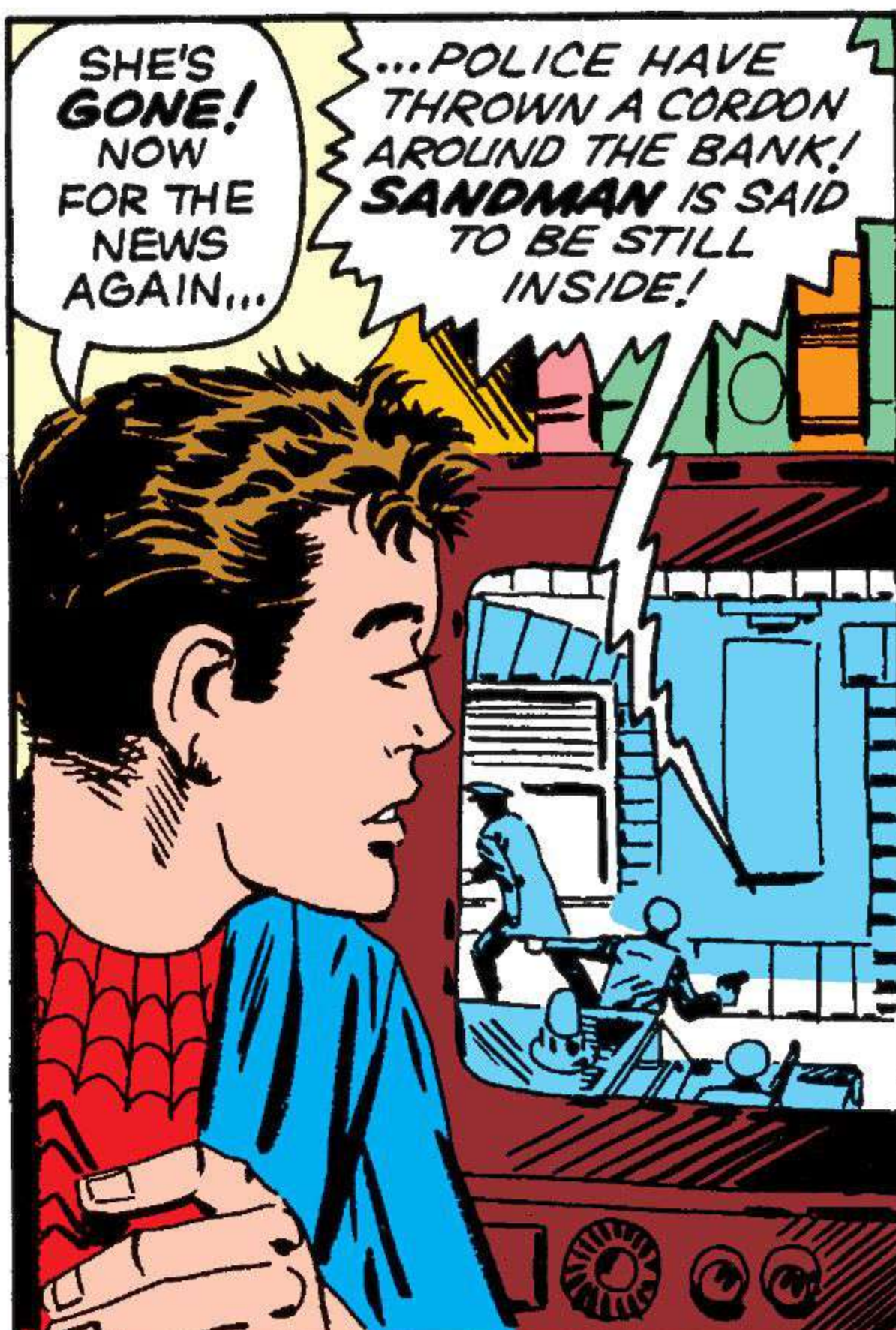
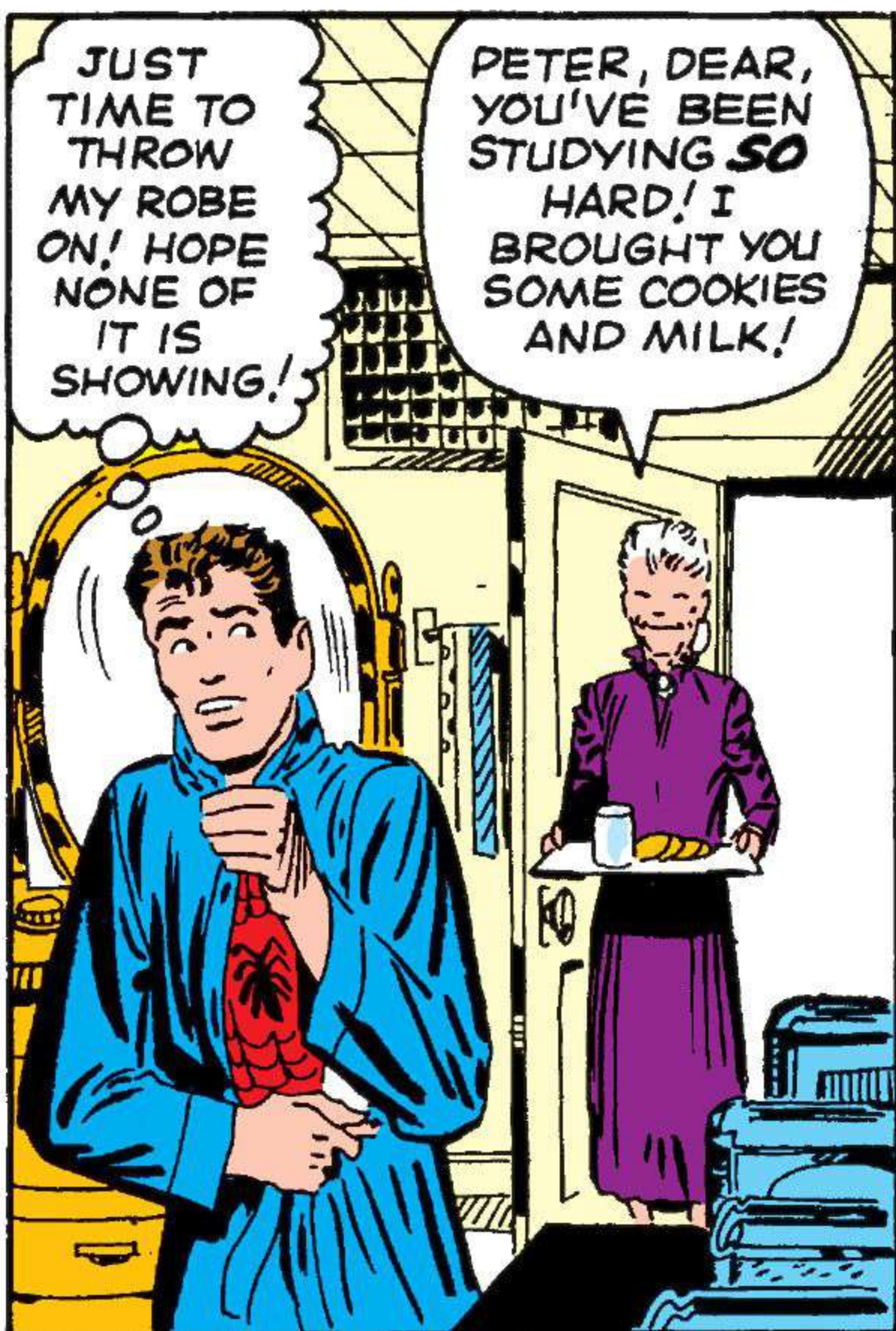
"VOWING NEVER TO BE RECAPTURED ALIVE, HE HEADED THE F.B.I. LIST OF MOST WANTED CRIMINALS AS HE MANAGED TO REMAIN ONE STEP AHEAD OF THE PURSUING LAWMEN!"

"BUT, AS THE POLICE DRAG-NET DREW EVER TIGHTER, HE HID IN THE ONE PLACE WHERE NO ONE WOULD IMAGINE A MAN WOULD HIDE-- AN **ATOMIC DEVICES TESTING CENTER**!"

"REALIZING IT WAS THE ONLY PLACE WHERE HE COULD HAVE A MEASURE OF SAFETY, HE REMAINED ON THE LONELY, FORBIDDEN-AREA BEACH, UNTIL THE FATEFUL DAY THAT A NUCLEAR TEST EXPLOSION CAUGHT HIM UNAWARES!"



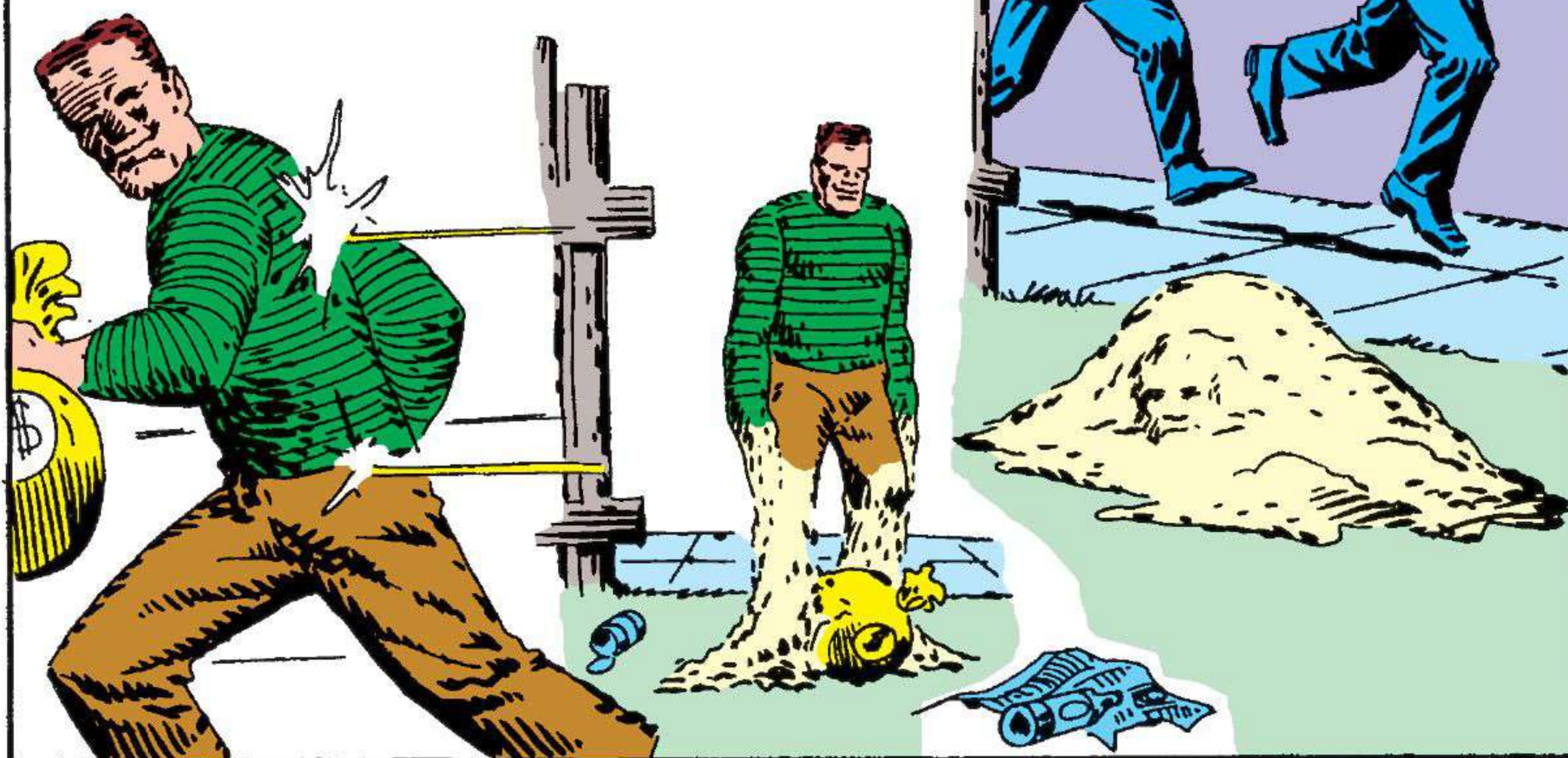
"BY SOME INCREDIBLE ACCIDENT, THE MOLECULES OF HIS BODY MERGED AT THAT RADIO-ACTIVE INSTANT WITH THE MOLECULES OF THE SAND UNDER HIS FEET, AND HIS BODY TOOK ON THE QUALITIES OF THE SAND ITSELF-- BECOMING VIRTUALLY **INDESTRUCTIBLE!**"



MEANWHILE, THE **SANDMAN** RACES THRU THE CITY, WITH THE PURSUING POLICE RIGHT AT HIS HEELS...

SUDDENLY TURNING A CORNER, HE DROPS HIS STOLEN MONEY-BAG AS HE WILLS HIS RADIATION-AFFECTED BODY TO CHANGE ITS PHYSICAL STRUCTURE...

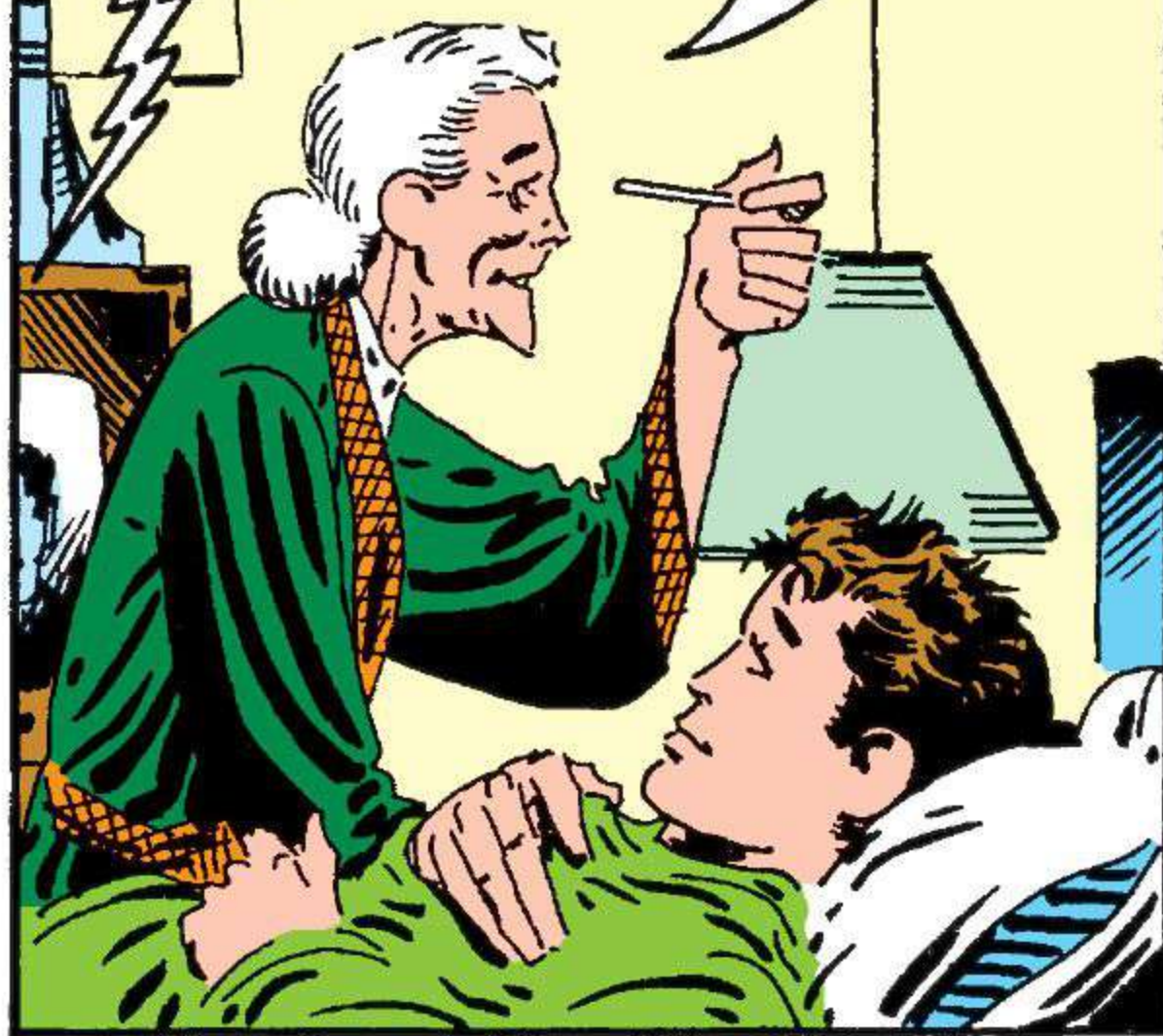
...AND THE UNSUSPECTING OFFICERS RUN PAST! FOR WHO WOULD THINK TO SUSPECT WHAT LIES BENEATH AN INNOCENT-LOOKING MOUND OF **SAND** IN A VACANT LOT?!!



THE NEXT MORNING...

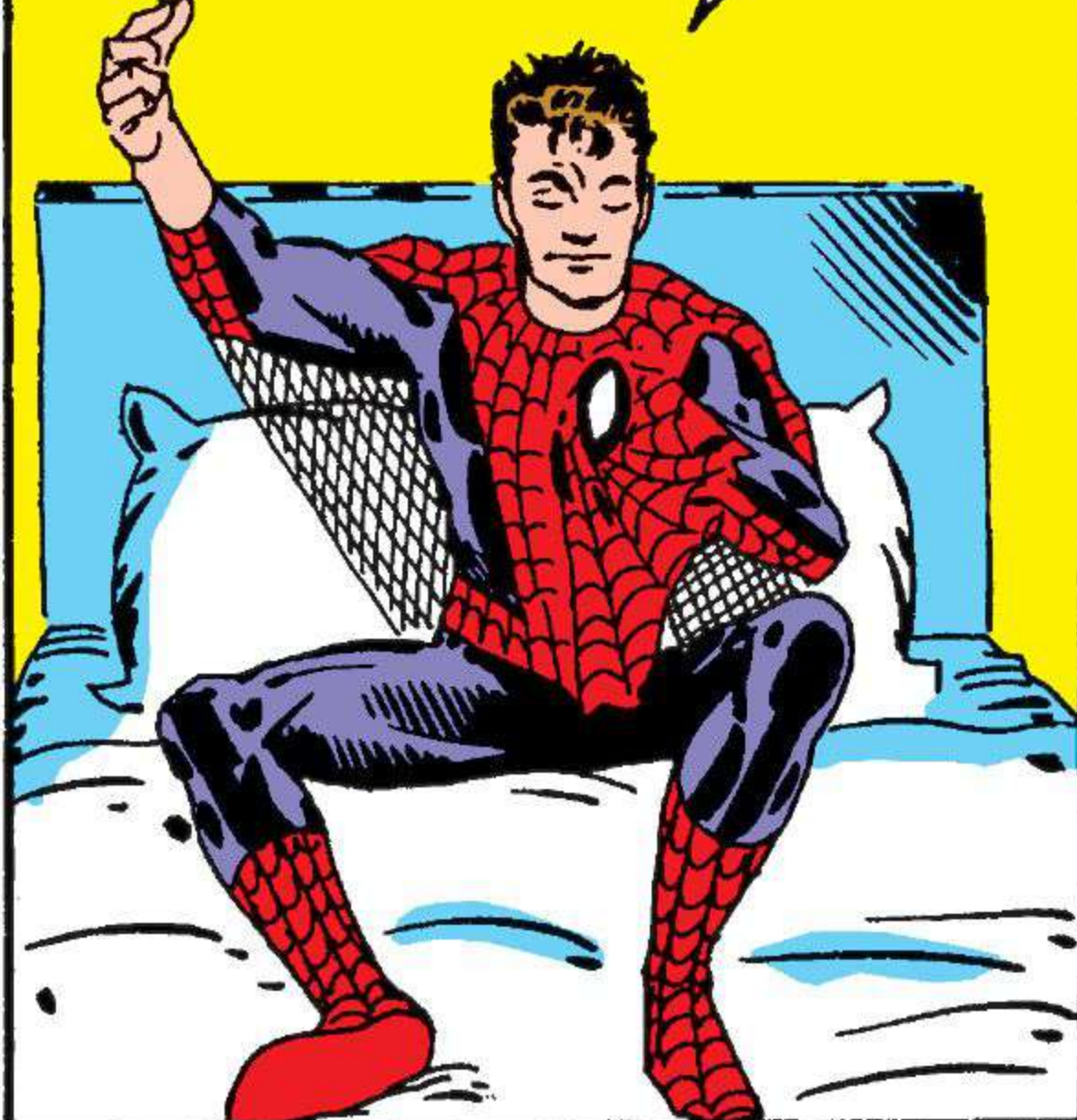
...AND, THOUGH **SANDMAN** HAS MADE GOOD HIS ESCAPE, THE POLICE ARE KEEPING CONSTANT VIGIL...

HMMM, YOU SEEM BETTER THIS MORNING, DEAR, AND YOUR TEMPERATURE IS PERFECTLY NORMAL! I'LL FIX YOU A NICE, WARM BREAKFAST AND YOU CAN GO TO SCHOOL!



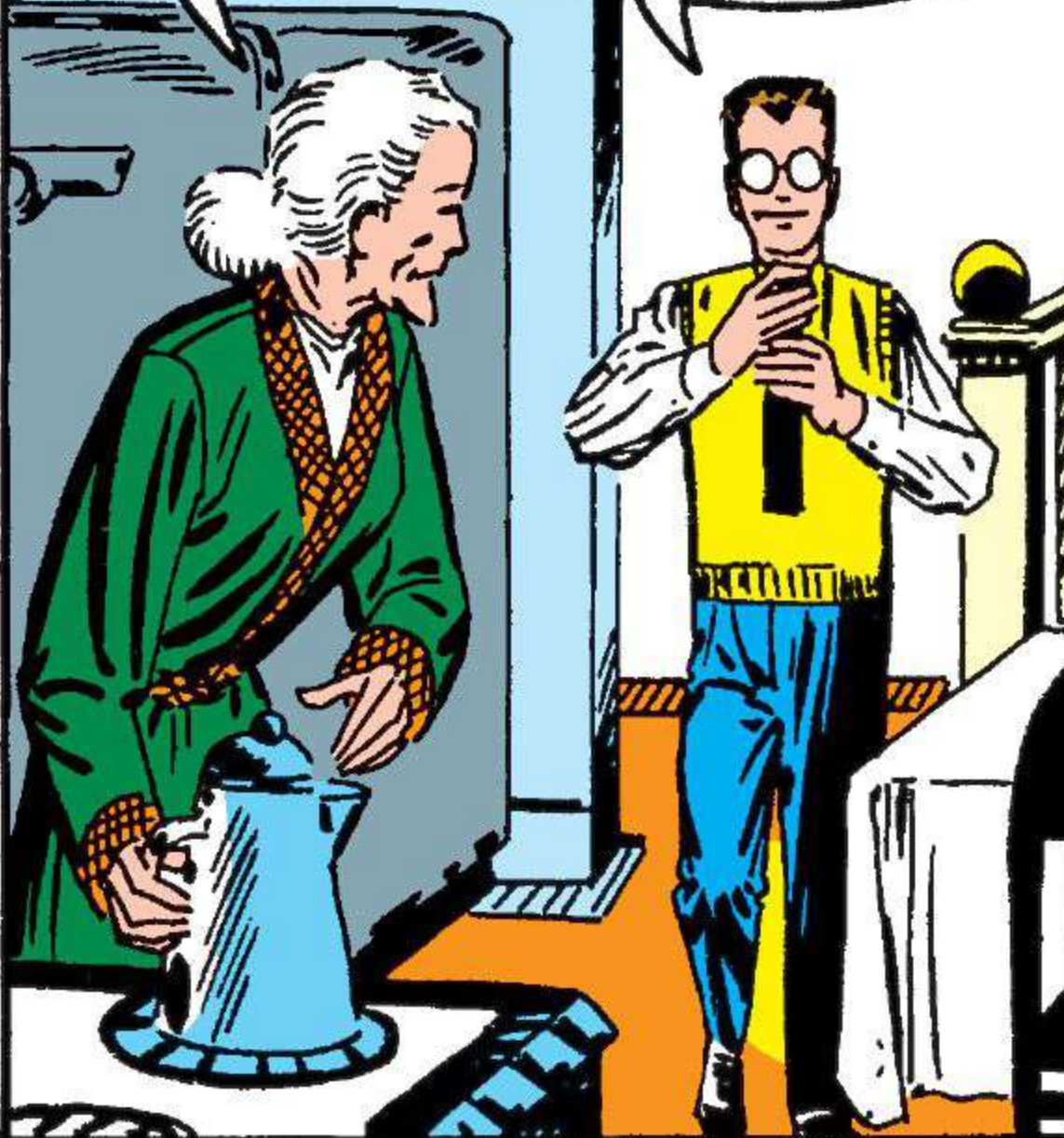
AS SOON AS HIS DOTING AUNT LEAVES THE ROOM...

WHEW! I WAS UP HALF THE NIGHT WORKIN' ON THIS, BUT AT LAST IT'S FINISHED! SO I'LL JUST WEAR MY **SPIDER-MAN** COSTUME UNDER MY CLOTHES TODAY...



BREAKFAST IS READY, PETER! BE SURE YOU EAT EVERY DROP! I'VE GOT TO LEAVE A LITTLE **EARLY** TODAY!

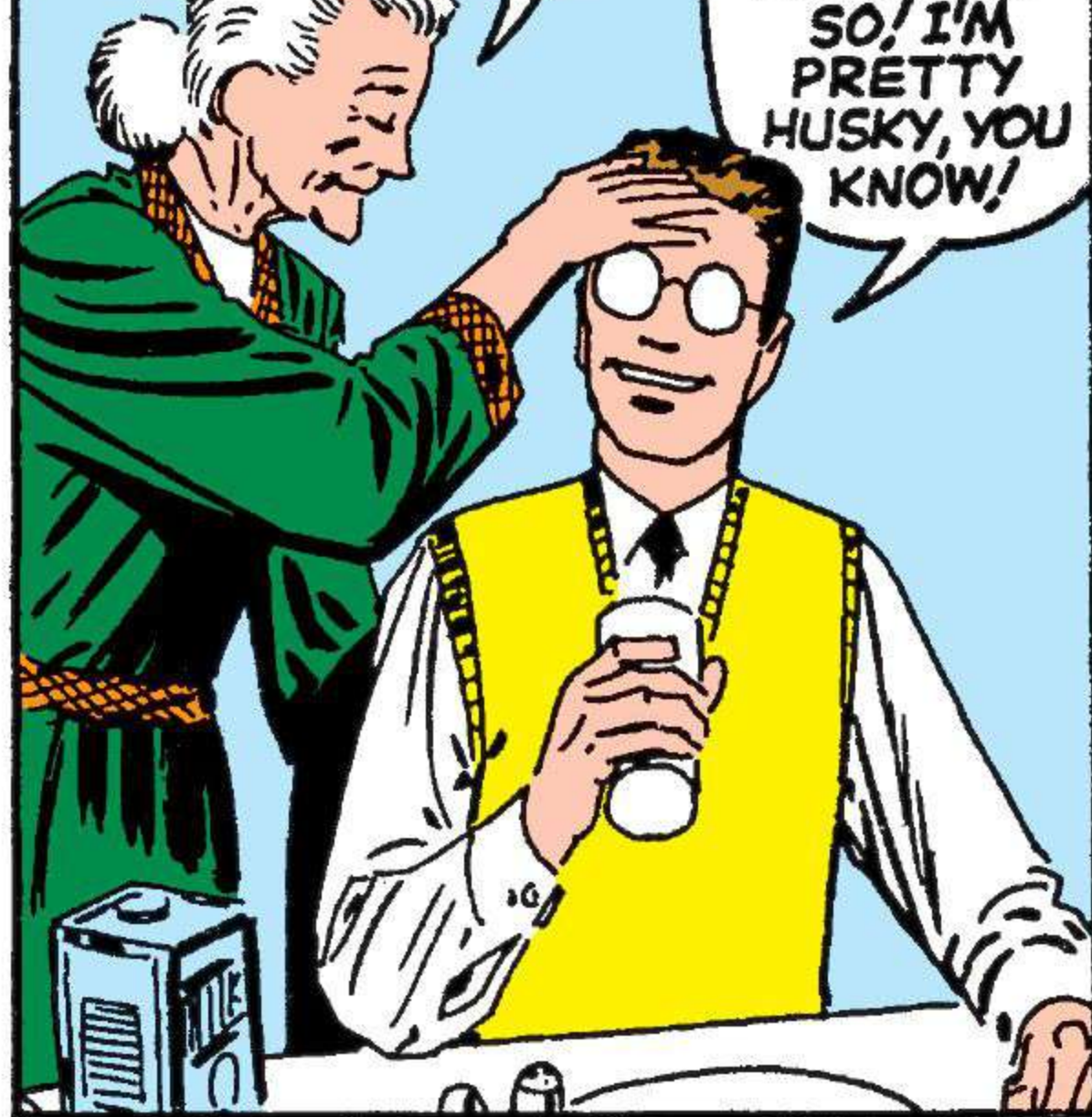
THANKS, AUNT MAY! I--EH, I'LL BE A LITTLE LATE COMING HOME TODAY! I'M GOING TO STOP OFF AND SEE MISTER JAMESON ABOUT SOMETHING!



HE'S THAT NICE GENTLEMAN WHO PUBLISHES THE **DAILY BUGLE**, AND **NOW MAGAZINE**, ISN'T HE?

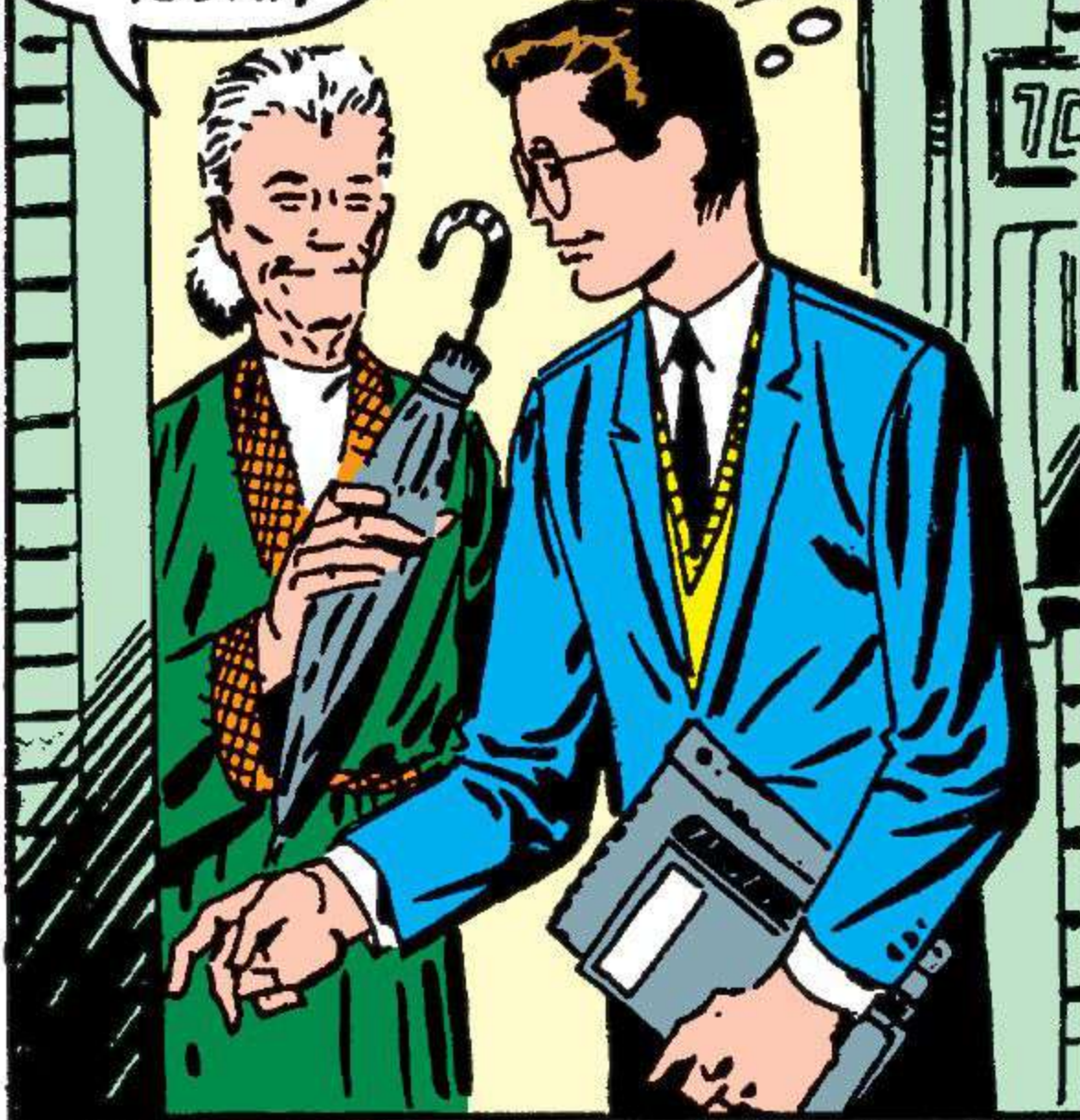
JUST BE SURE YOU DON'T EXERT YOURSELF, DEAR! YOU KNOW HOW EASILY YOU CATCH COLD!

AW, AUNT MAY-- I WISH YOU WOULDN'T BABY ME SO! I'M PRETTY HUSKY, YOU KNOW!



NOW, NOW, PETER, WE CAN'T BE **TOO** CAREFUL, CAN WE? HERE, TAKE YOUR UMBRELLA! IT MAY RAIN TODAY!

BOY, IF THE WORLD EVER FOUND OUT THAT **SPIDER-MAN** HAD TO CARRY AN **UMBRELLA** AND PROMISE NOT TO EXERT HIMSELF!!!



A FEW MINUTES LATER, AT THE PUBLISHING OFFICE OF **J. JONAH JAMESON**...

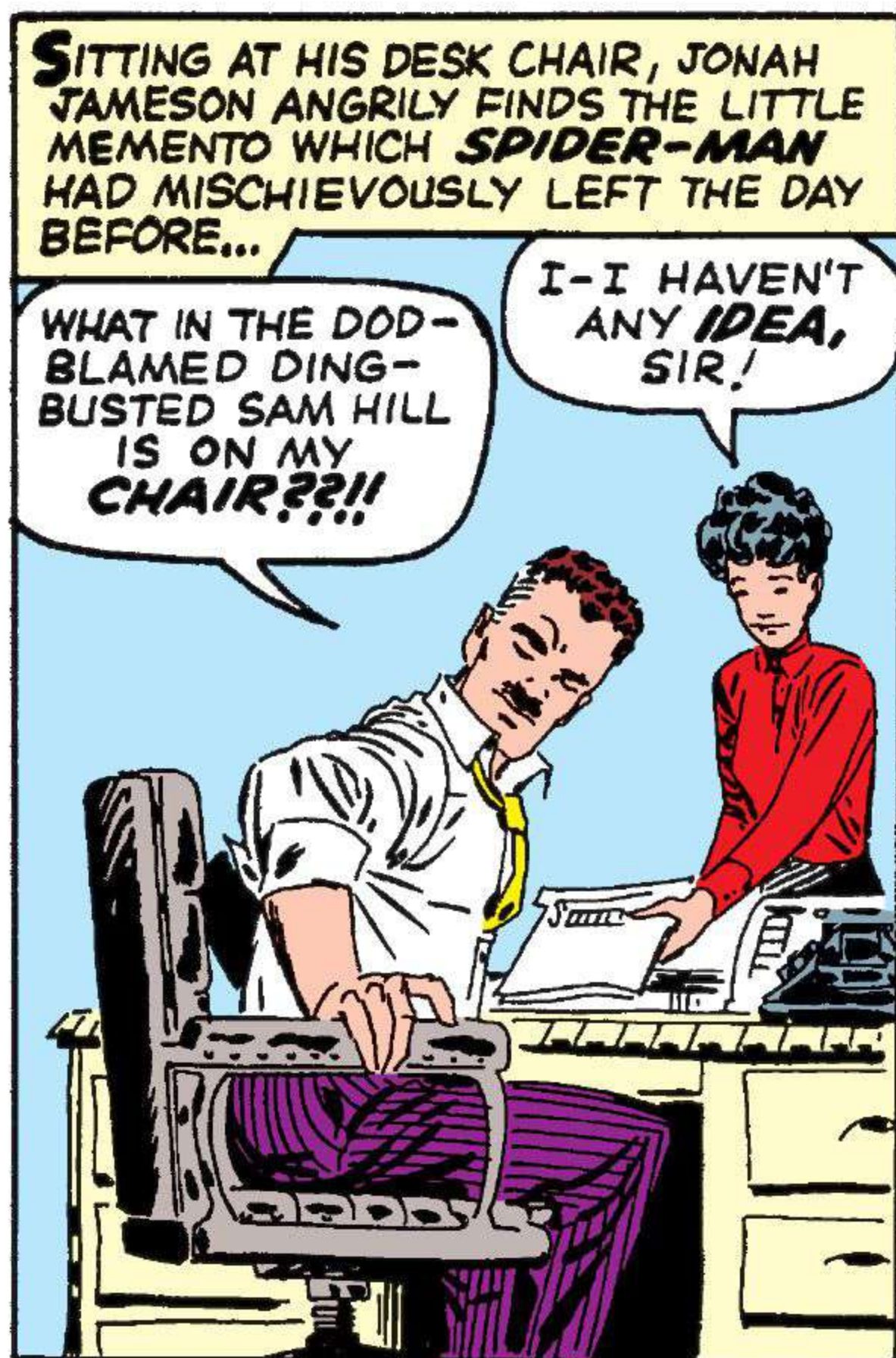
GOOD MORNING, MR. JAMESON!

HRRMPH! BRING ME THE LATEST BULLETINS ABOUT **SANDMAN** RIGHT AWAY! ALSO, I WANT THE FILE ON **SPIDER-MAN**!



FIRST **SPIDER-MAN** PLAGUES THIS CITY, AND NOW **SANDMAN**!! I WONDER IF THERE COULD BE ANY **CONNECTION** BETWEEN THE TWO! WHAT A **SCOOP** IT WOULD BE IF I PROVED THERE **IS**!





SITTING AT HIS DESK CHAIR, JONAH JAMESON ANGRILY FINDS THE LITTLE MEMENTO WHICH **SPIDER-MAN** HAD MISCHIEVOUSLY LEFT THE DAY BEFORE...

WHAT IN THE DOD-BLAMED DING-BUSTED SAM HILL IS ON MY **CHAIR???**

I-I HAVEN'T ANY **IDEA**, SIR!



I'M **STUCK** IN THIS BLASTED CHAIR! CAN'T GET OUT!

IT'S THE WORK OF THAT MISERABLE **SPIDER-MAN**! WELL, DON'T JUST STAND THERE **GAWK-ING**, MISS BRANT! GO GET ME ANOTHER PAIR OF **TROUSERS!!**

THERE'S A PIECE OF ADHESIVE **WEBBING** ON THE SEAT!

Y-YES SIR!

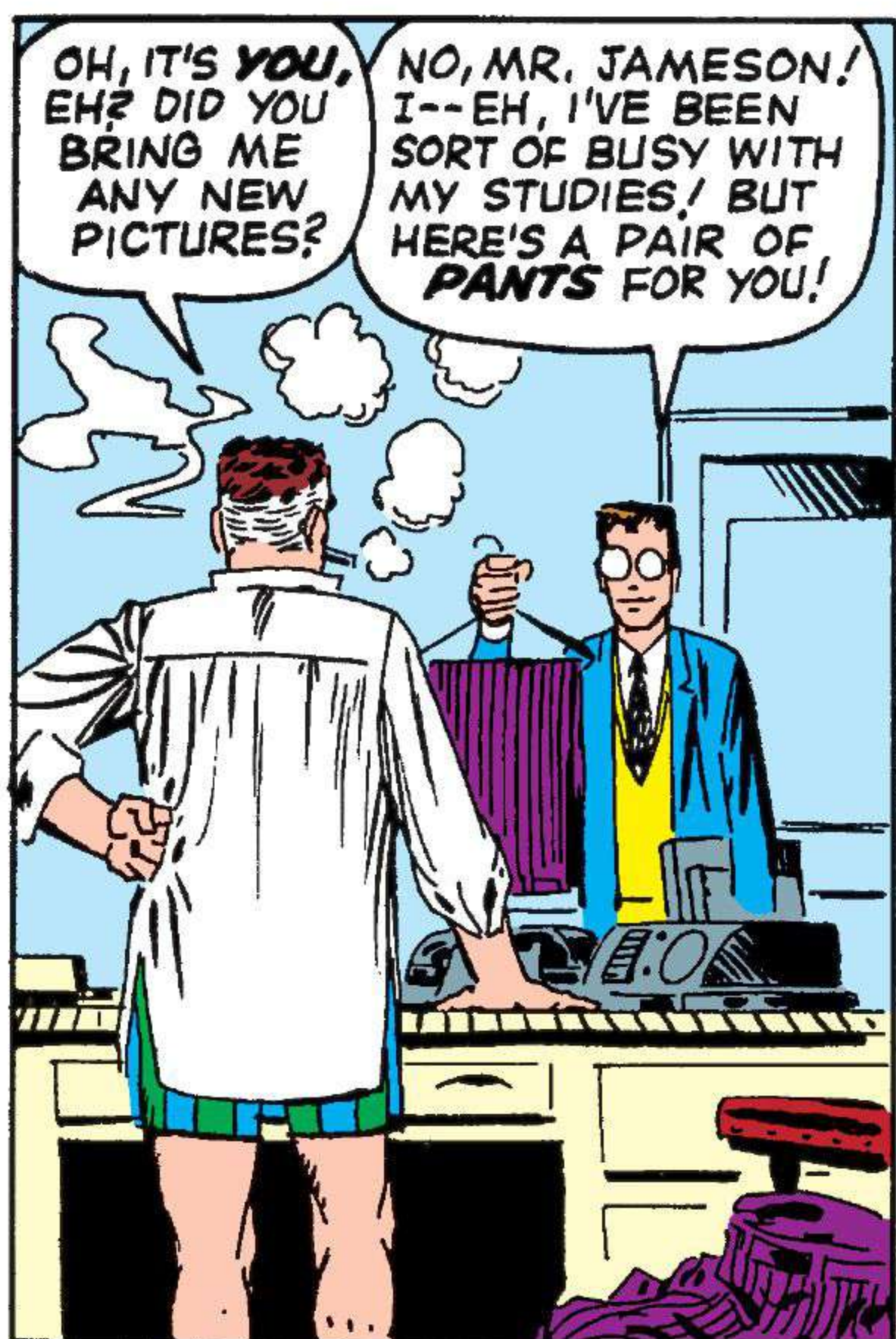


OH, THERE'S JJ'S YOUNG PHOTO-GRAPHER, PETER PARKER!

SURE, MISS BRANT!

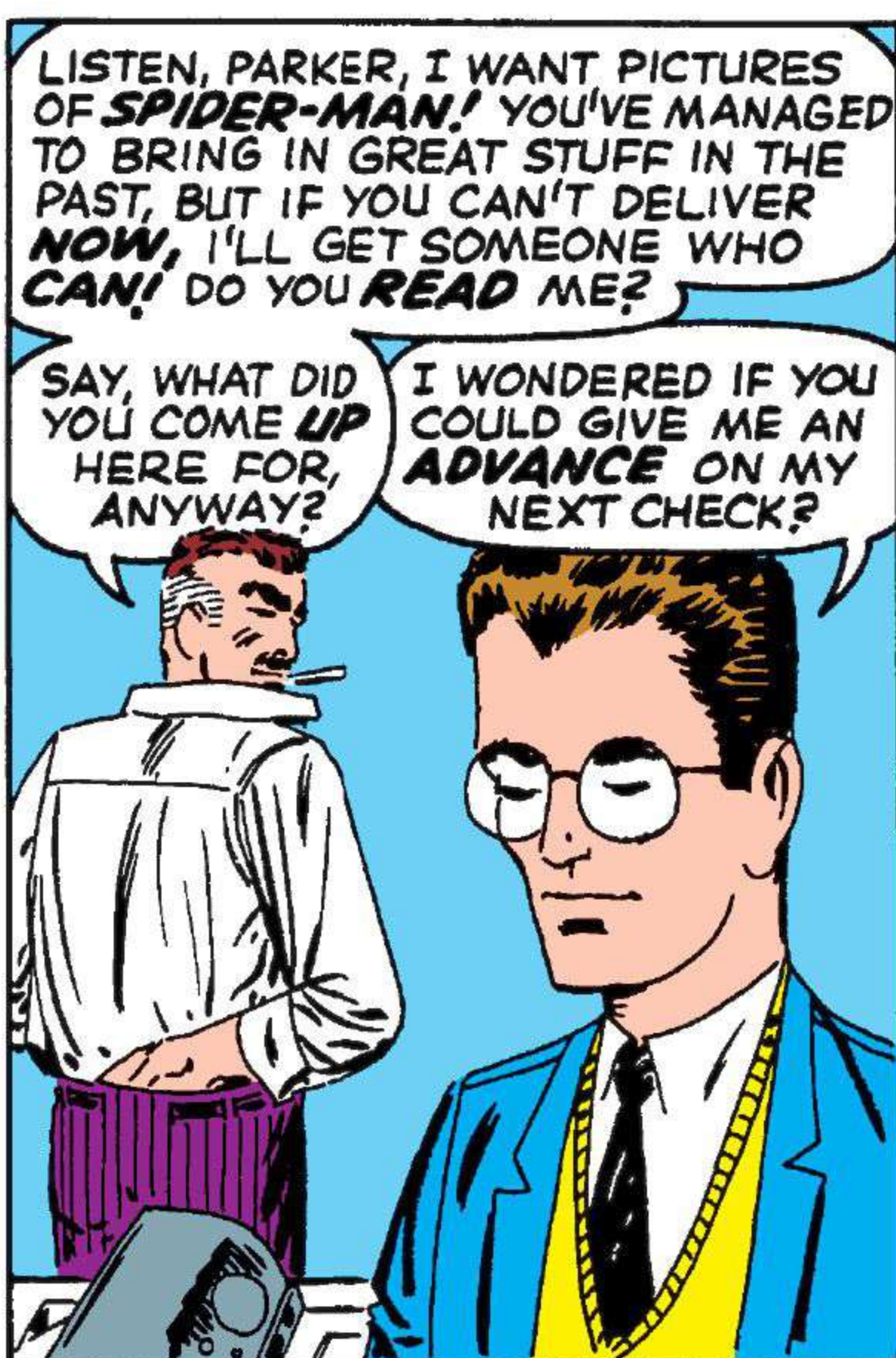
WOULD YOU BRING THESE TROUSERS IN TO MR. JAMESON, PETER? HE'S IN SUCH A BAD MOOD, I HATE TO FACE HIM!

JJ MUST HAVE FOUND THE LITTLE "MEMENTO" I LEFT FOR HIM YESTERDAY! I CLEAN FORGOT ABOUT IT!



OH, IT'S **YOU**, EH? DID YOU BRING ME ANY NEW PICTURES?

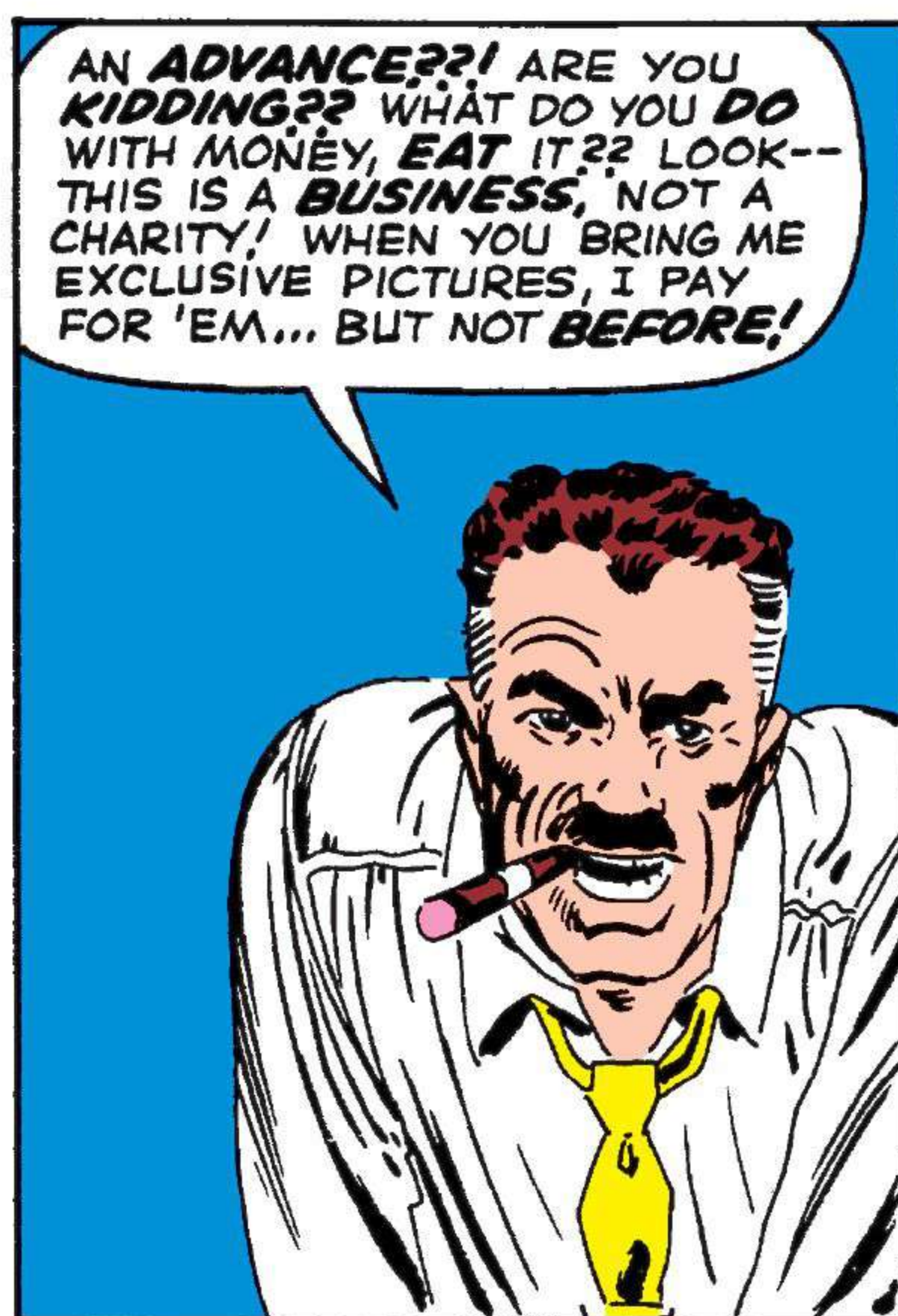
NO, MR. JAMESON! I--EH, I'VE BEEN SORT OF BUSY WITH MY STUDIES! BUT HERE'S A PAIR OF **PANTS** FOR YOU!



LISTEN, PARKER, I WANT PICTURES OF **SPIDER-MAN**! YOU'VE MANAGED TO BRING IN GREAT STUFF IN THE PAST, BUT IF YOU CAN'T DELIVER **NOW**, I'LL GET SOMEONE WHO **CAN**! DO YOU **READ** ME?

SAY, WHAT DID YOU COME **UP** HERE FOR, ANYWAY?

I WONDERED IF YOU COULD GIVE ME AN **ADVANCE** ON MY NEXT CHECK?



AN **ADVANCE??** ARE YOU **KIDDING??** WHAT DO YOU **DO** WITH **MONEY**, **EAT** IT?? LOOK--THIS IS A **BUSINESS**, NOT A **CHARITY**! WHEN YOU BRING ME EXCLUSIVE PICTURES, I PAY FOR 'EM... BUT NOT **BEFORE**!



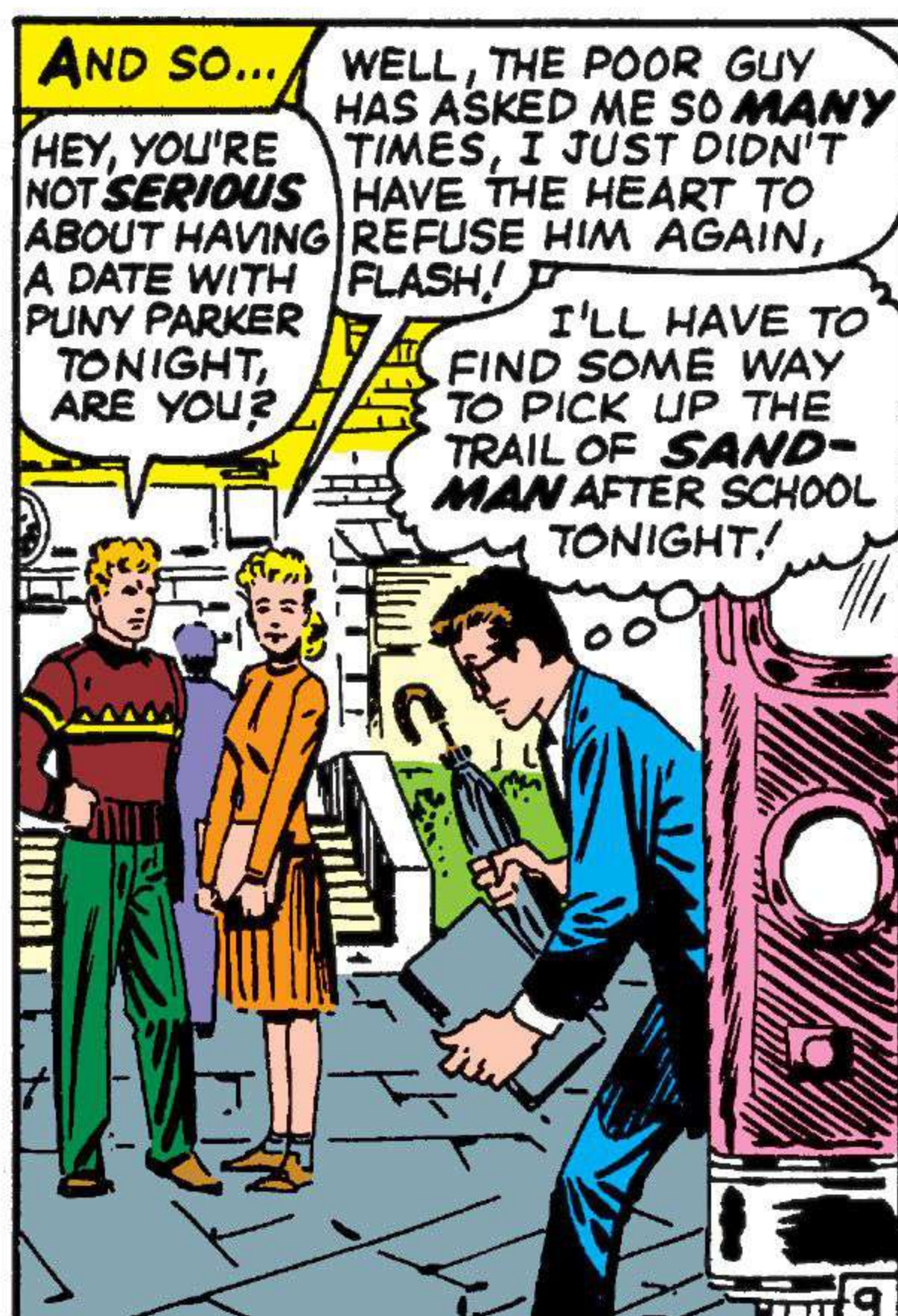
YOU TEEN-AGERS ARE ALL ALIKE --YOU THINK THE WORLD OWES YOU A **LIVING**! NOW GO OUT AND GET ME SOME SHOTS OF **SPIDER-MAN**, AND DON'T COME BACK TILL YOU **DO**!

I NEEDED THE DOUGH FOR NEW EXPERIMENTS WITH MY **WEBBING**--BUT I CAN'T TELL **HIM** THAT! OH, WELL, I **TRIED**!



ONCE I GET THOSE PIX OF **SPIDER-MAN**, I'LL RUN THEM NEXT TO SOME PIX OF **SANDMAN**, WITH A CAPTION READING: **ARE THEY THE SAME MAN?** WHAT A **FEATURE** **THAT** WILL MAKE!

BETTER GET TO SCHOOL BEFORE I MISS THE LAST BELL!

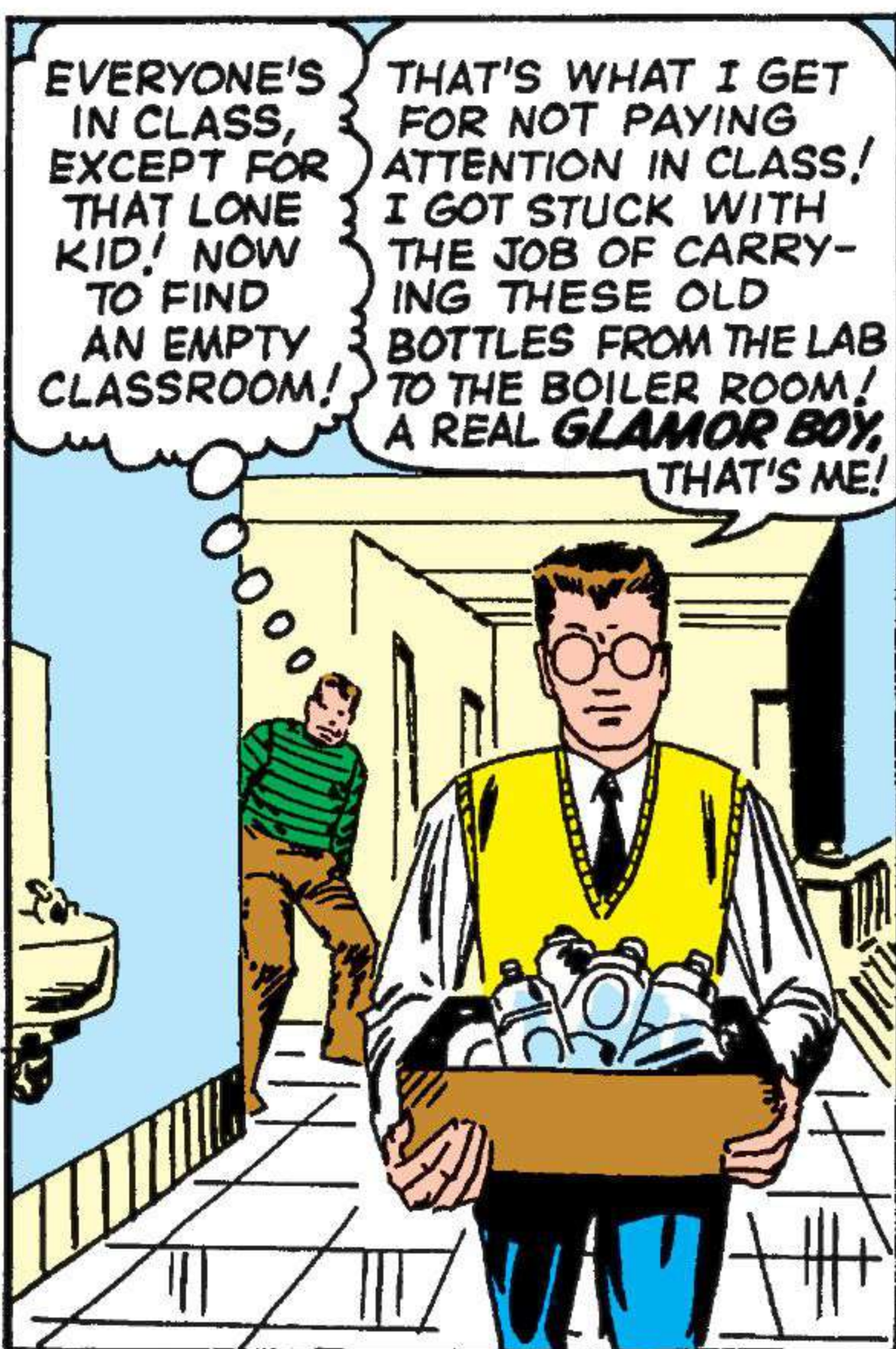
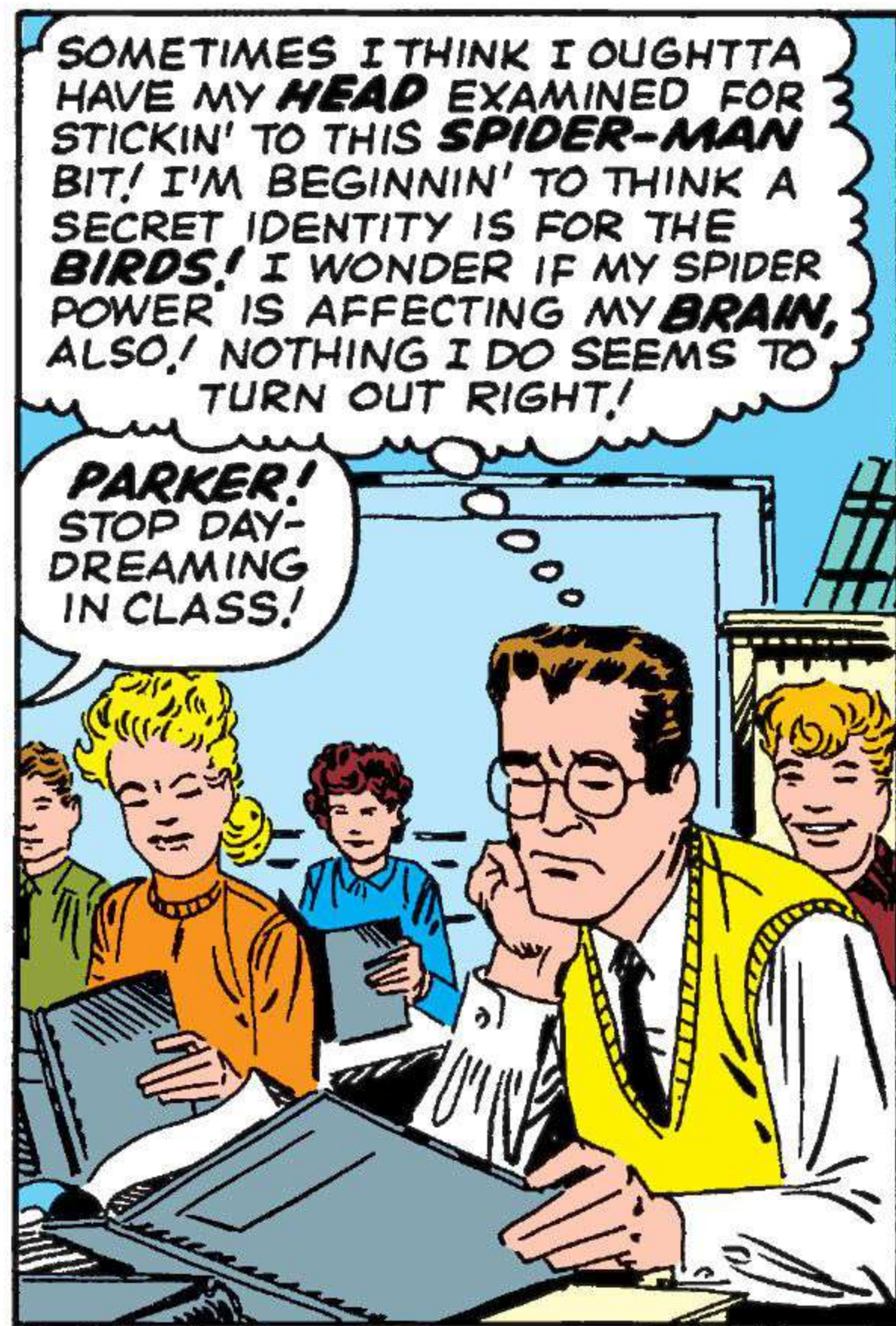
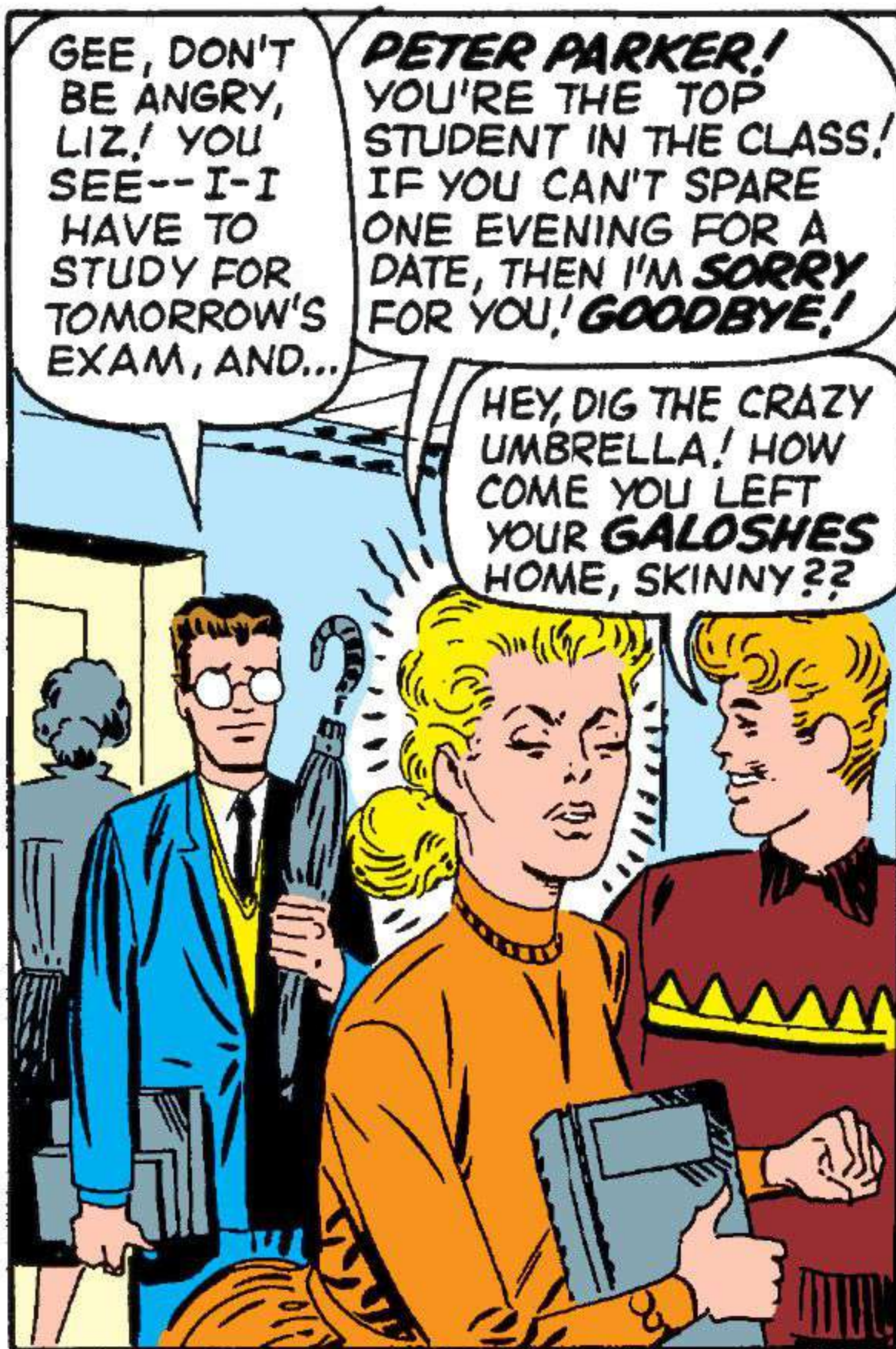
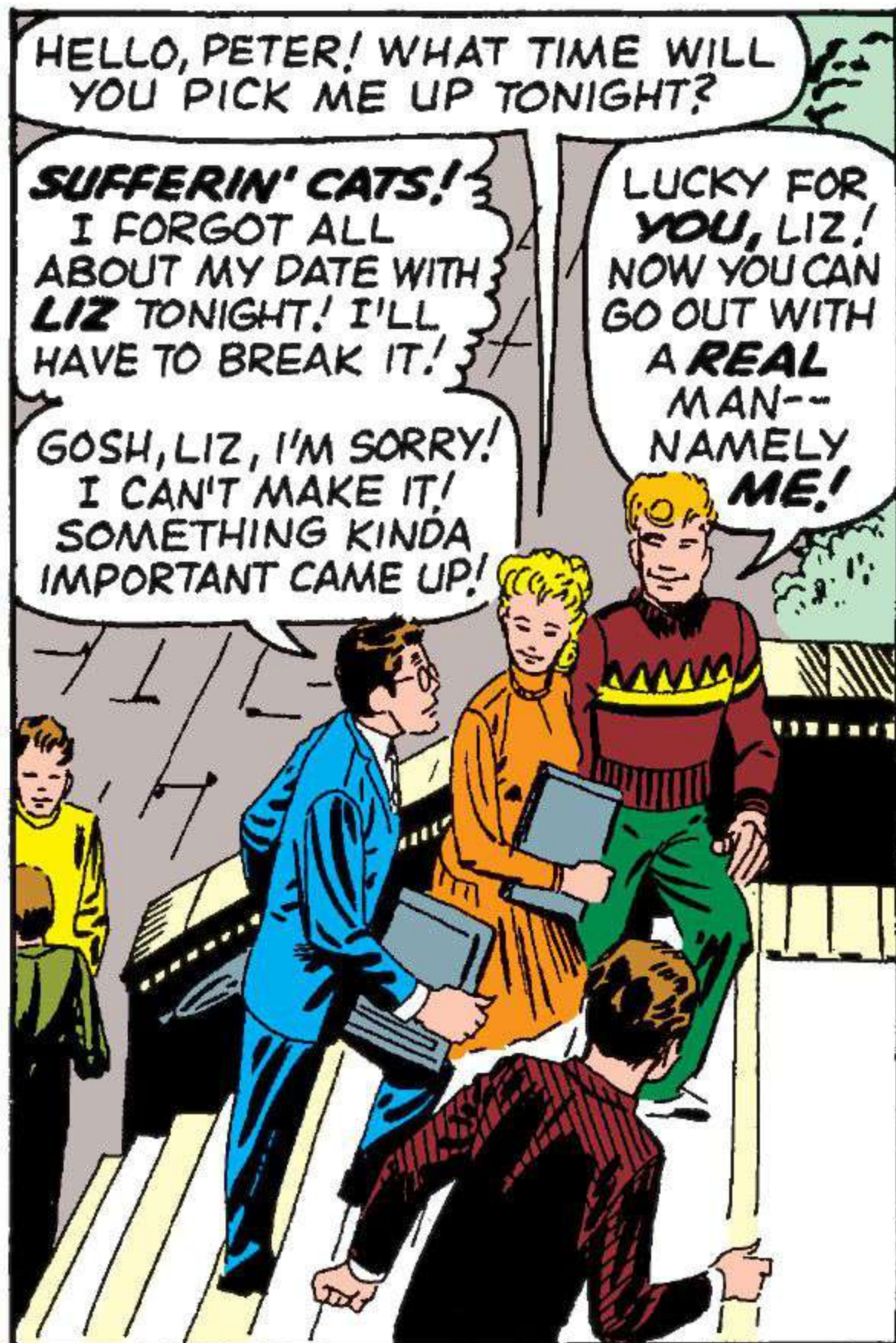


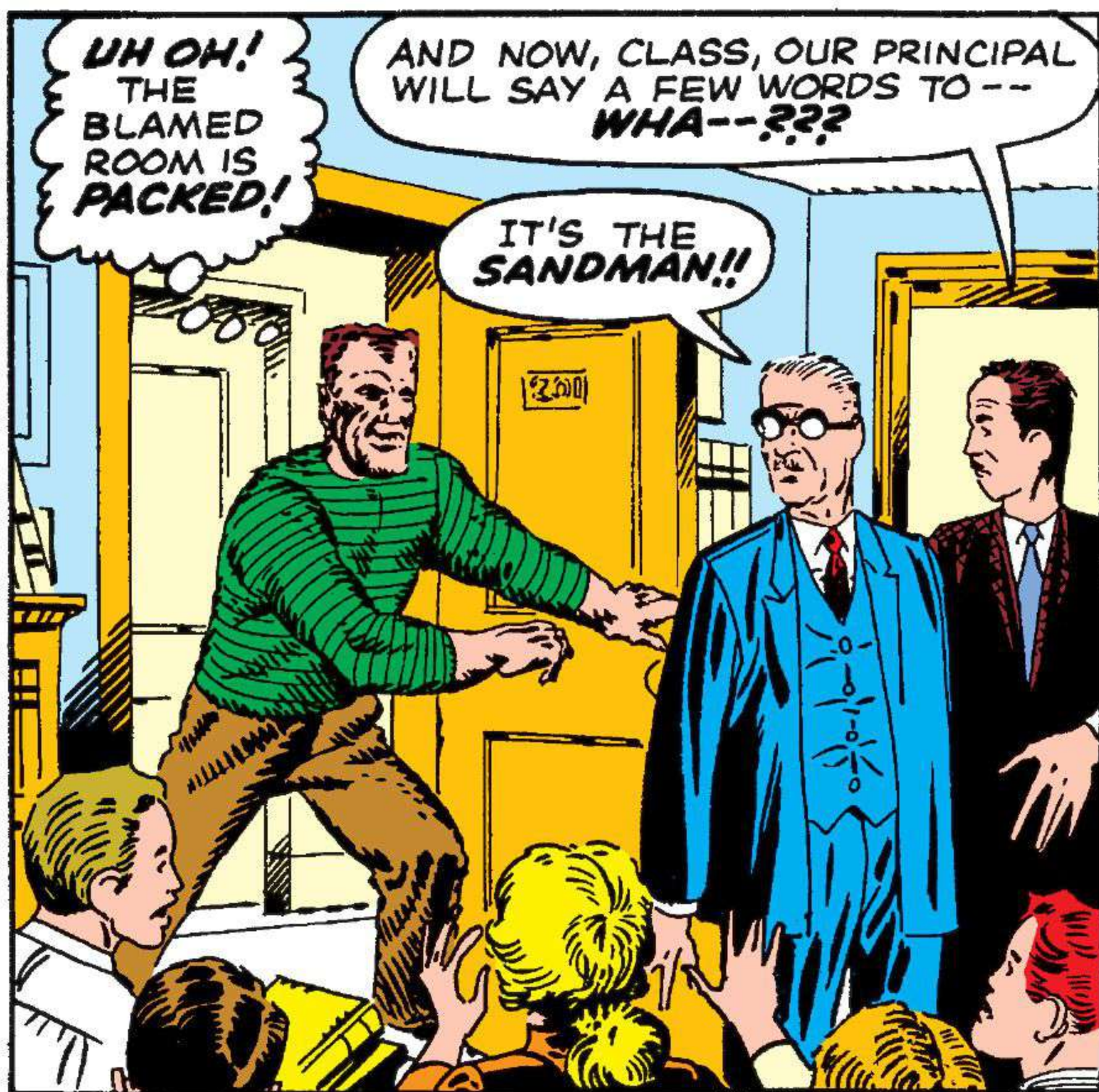
AND SO...

HEY, YOU'RE NOT **SERIOUS** ABOUT HAVING A DATE WITH PUNY PARKER TONIGHT, ARE YOU?

WELL, THE POOR GUY HAS ASKED ME SO **MANY** TIMES, I JUST DIDN'T HAVE THE HEART TO REFUSE HIM AGAIN, **FLASH!**

I'LL HAVE TO FIND SOME WAY TO PICK UP THE TRAIL OF **SAND-MAN** AFTER SCHOOL TONIGHT!

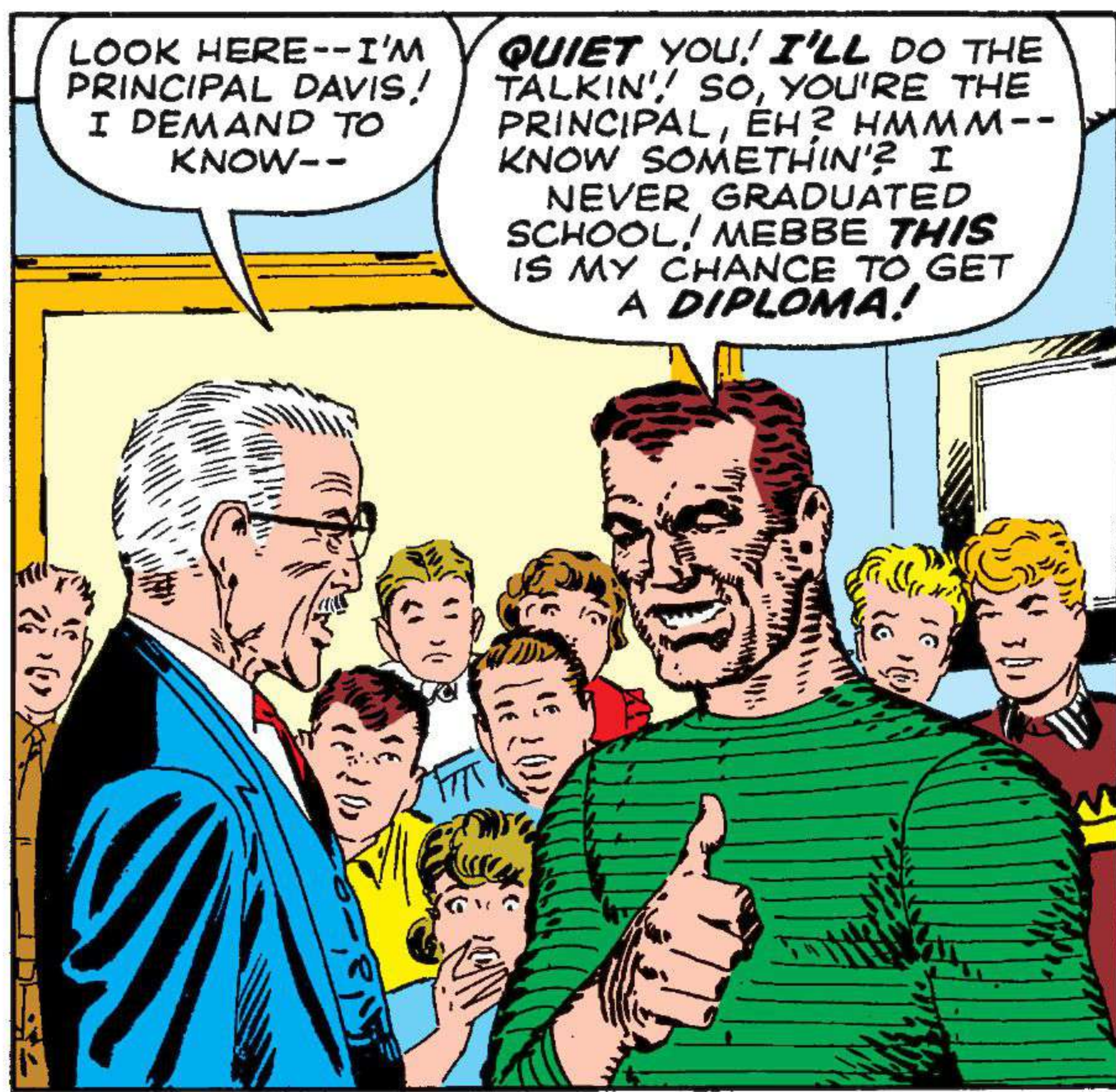




UH OH!
THE
BLAMED
ROOM IS
PACKED!

AND NOW, CLASS, OUR PRINCIPAL
WILL SAY A FEW WORDS TO --
WHA---???

IT'S THE
SANDMAN!!



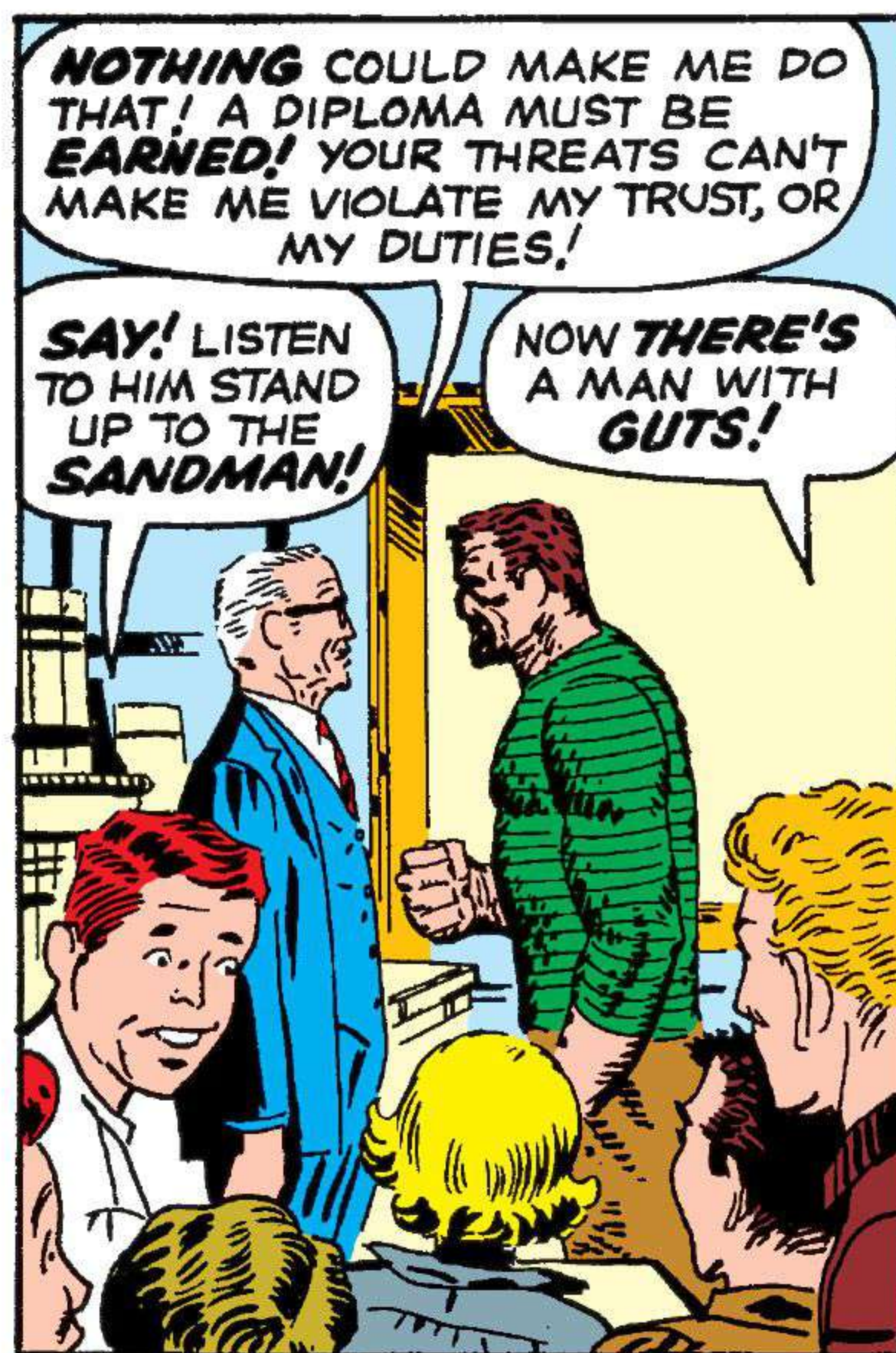
LOOK HERE--I'M
PRINCIPAL DAVIS!
I DEMAND TO
KNOW--

**QUIET YOU! I'LL DO THE
TALKIN'!** SO, YOU'RE THE
PRINCIPAL, EH? HMMM--
KNOW SOMETHIN'? I
NEVER GRADUATED
SCHOOL! MEBBE **THIS**
IS MY CHANCE TO GET
A **DIPLOMA!**



I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE
TALKING ABOUT!

WELL, YOU'RE GONNA FIND
OUT RIGHT **NOW!** I FIGURE
A GUY LIKE ME DESERVES
THE BEST OF EVERYTHING!
SO, I WANT YA TO WRITE ME
OUT A DIPLOMA-- OR **ELSE!**



NOTHING COULD MAKE ME DO
THAT! A DIPLOMA MUST BE
EARNED! YOUR THREATS CAN'T
MAKE ME VIOLATE MY TRUST, OR
MY DUTIES!

SAY! LISTEN
TO HIM STAND
UP TO THE
SANDMAN!

NOW **THERE'S**
A MAN WITH
GUTS!



STOP! STAY BACK! THESE STUDENTS
ARE IN **MY** CARE! ALL OF YOU--
RUN! RUN HOME! CALL THE
POLICE! I'LL HOLD HIM OFF TILL
YOU GET
SAFELY
OUT!

THAT'S WHAT **YOU** THINK,
MISTER! I'M GONNA
TEACH YOU A LITTLE
LESSON RIGHT
NOW!

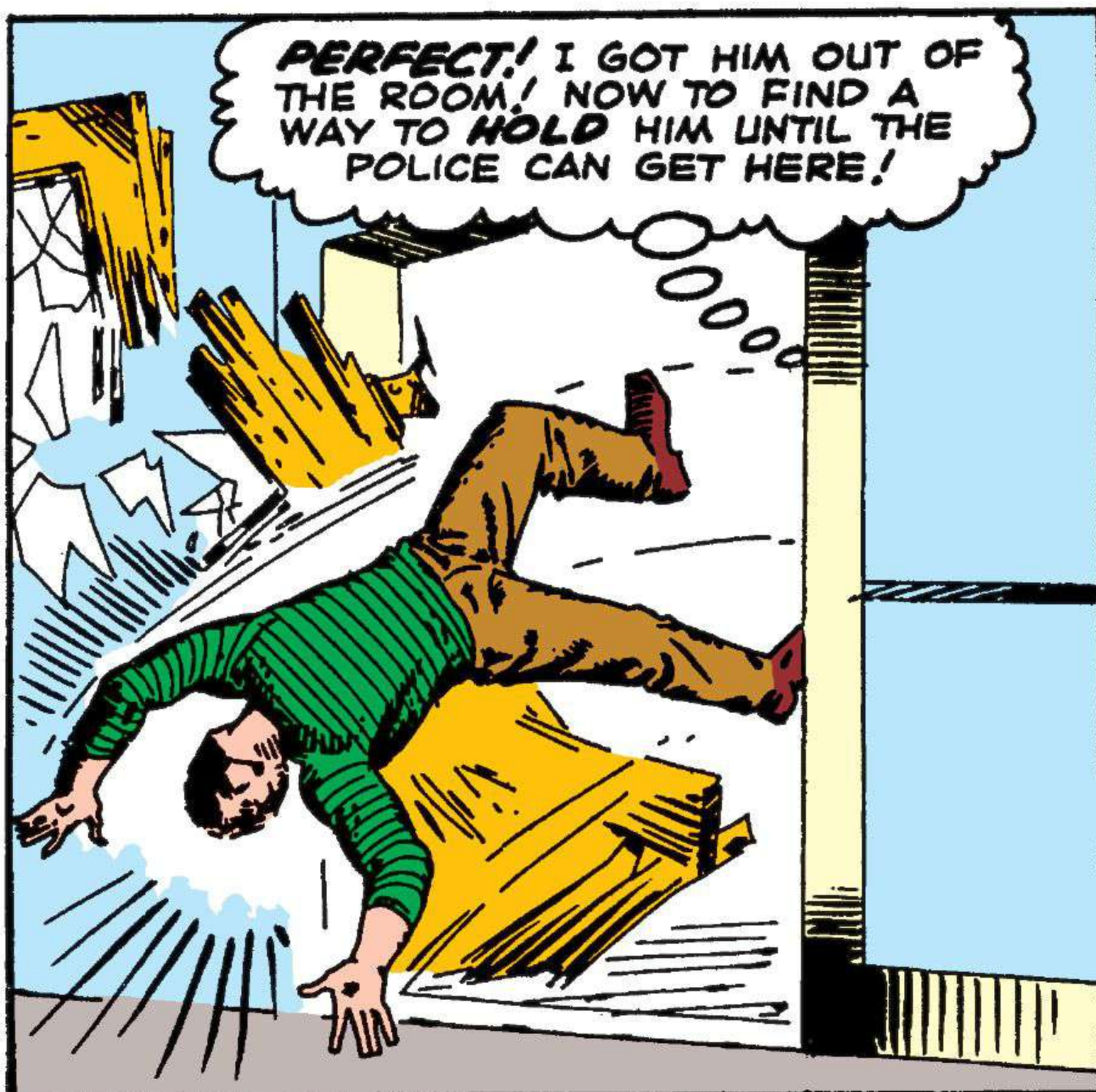
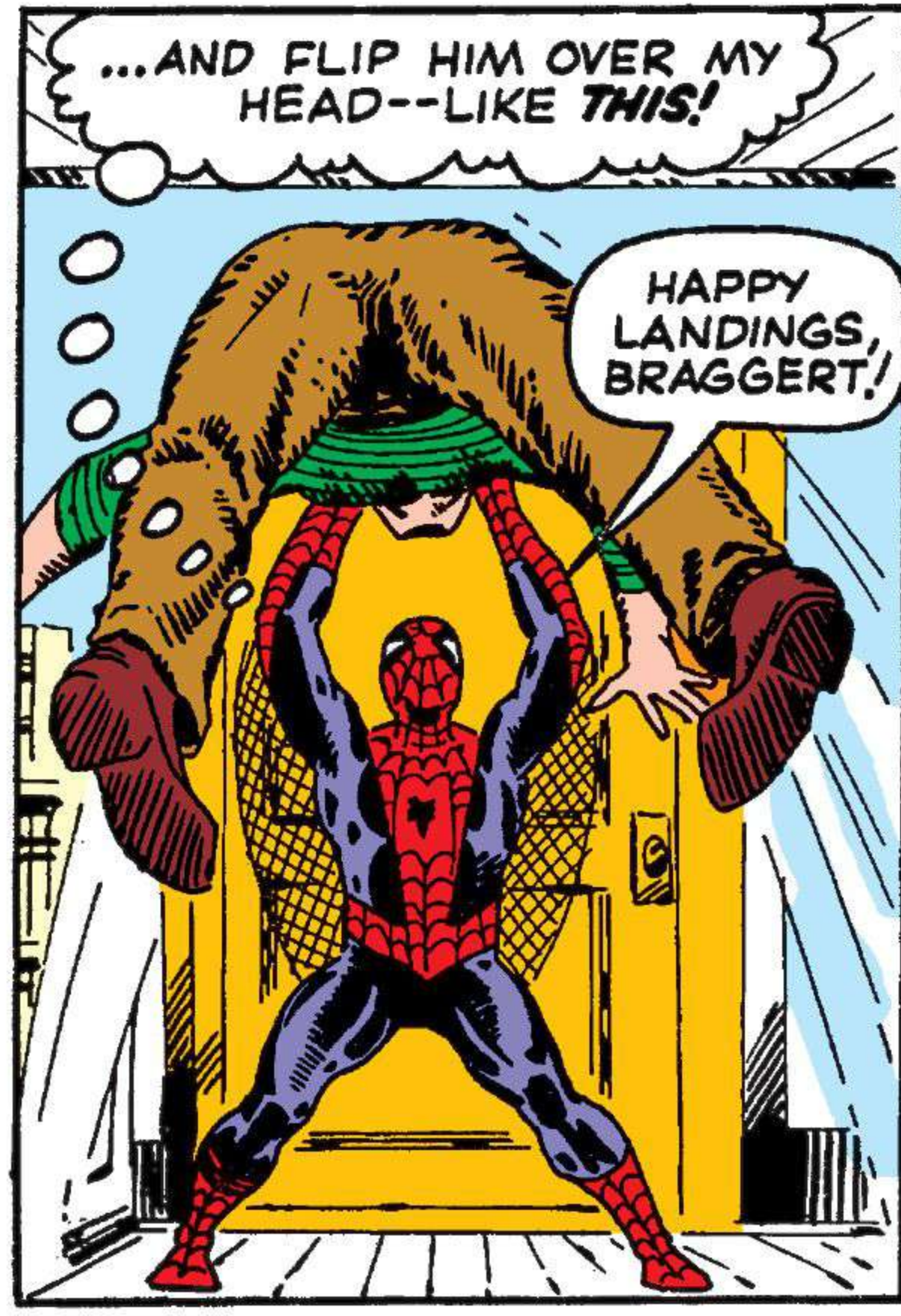
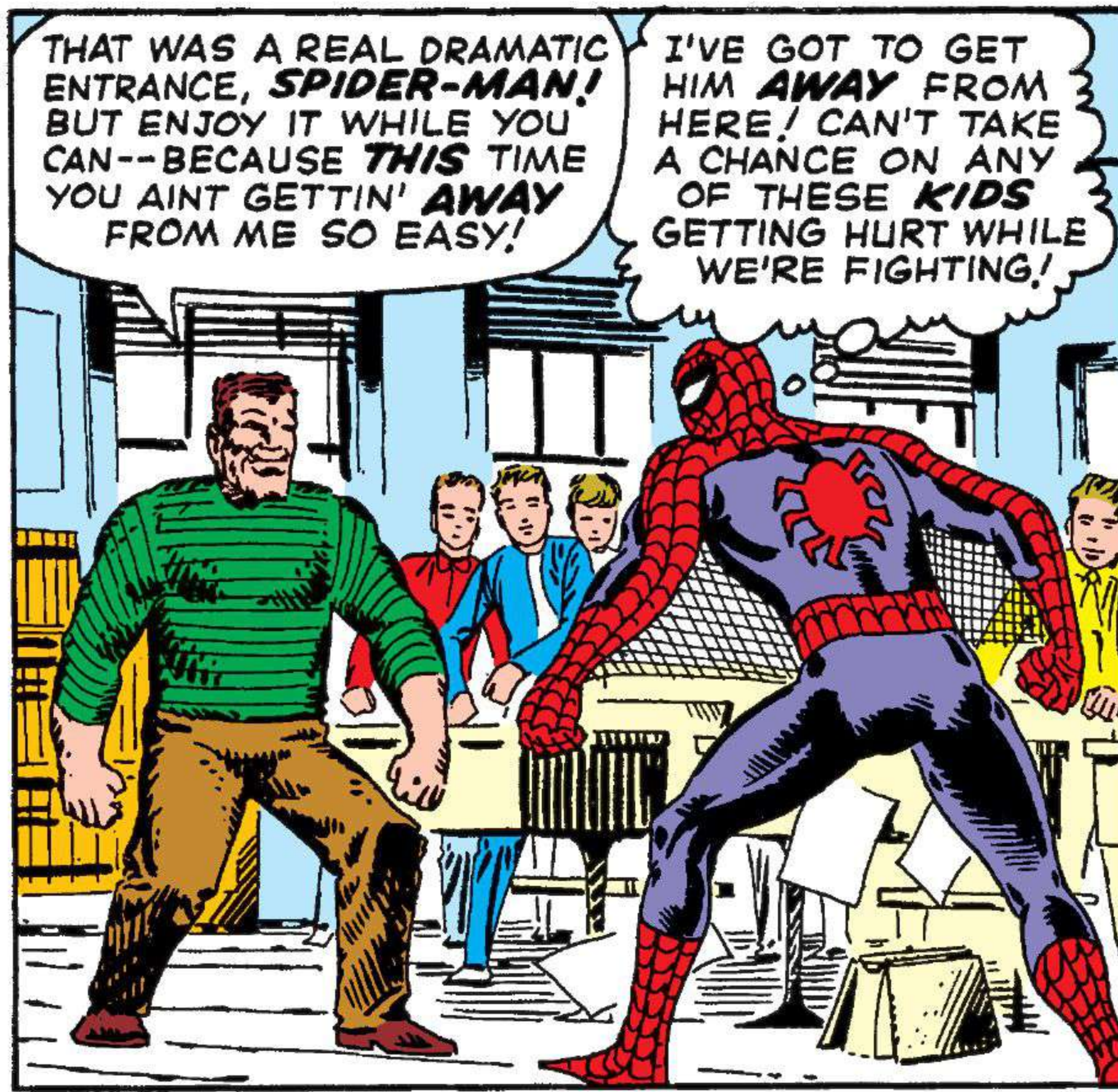
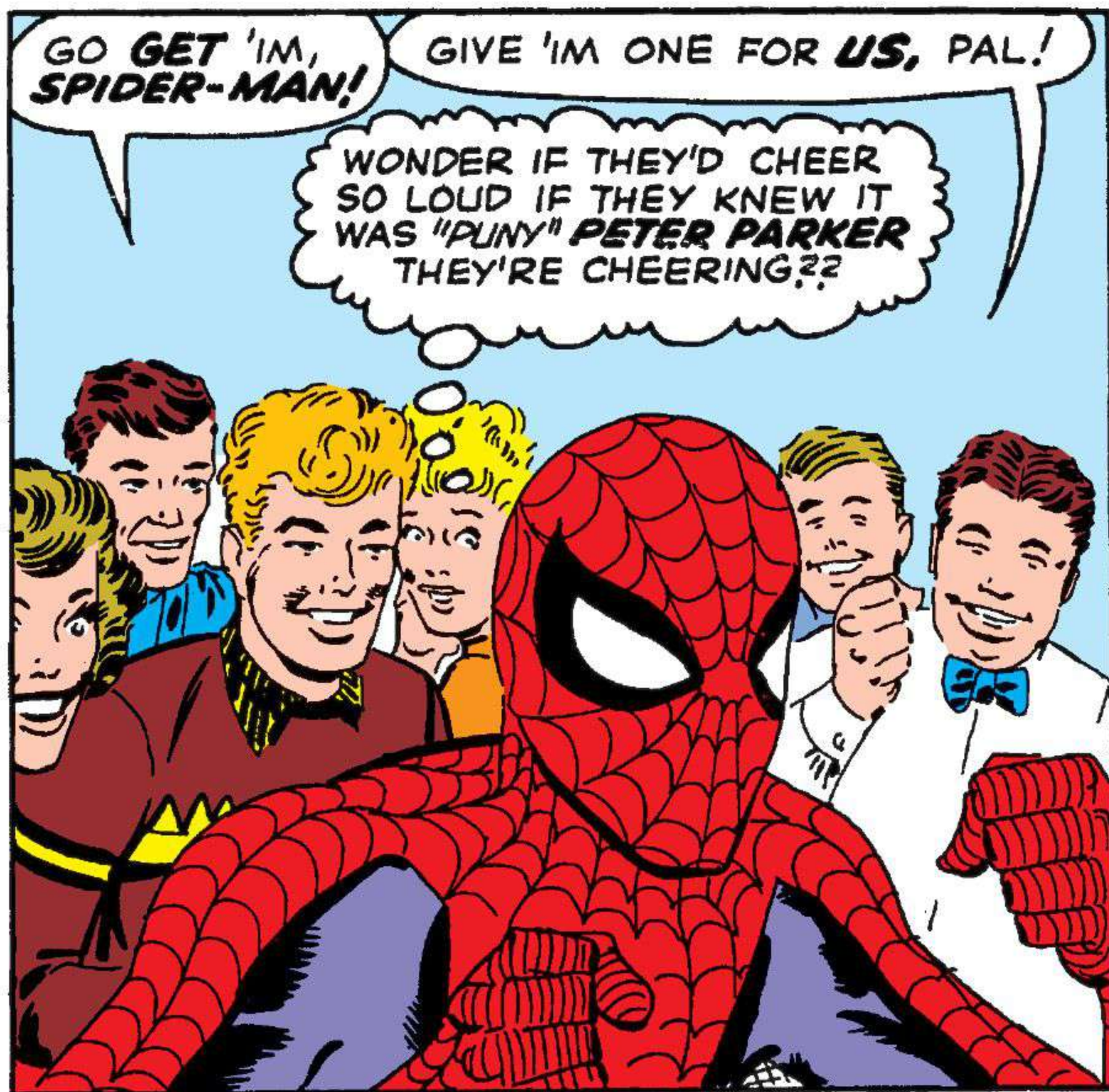


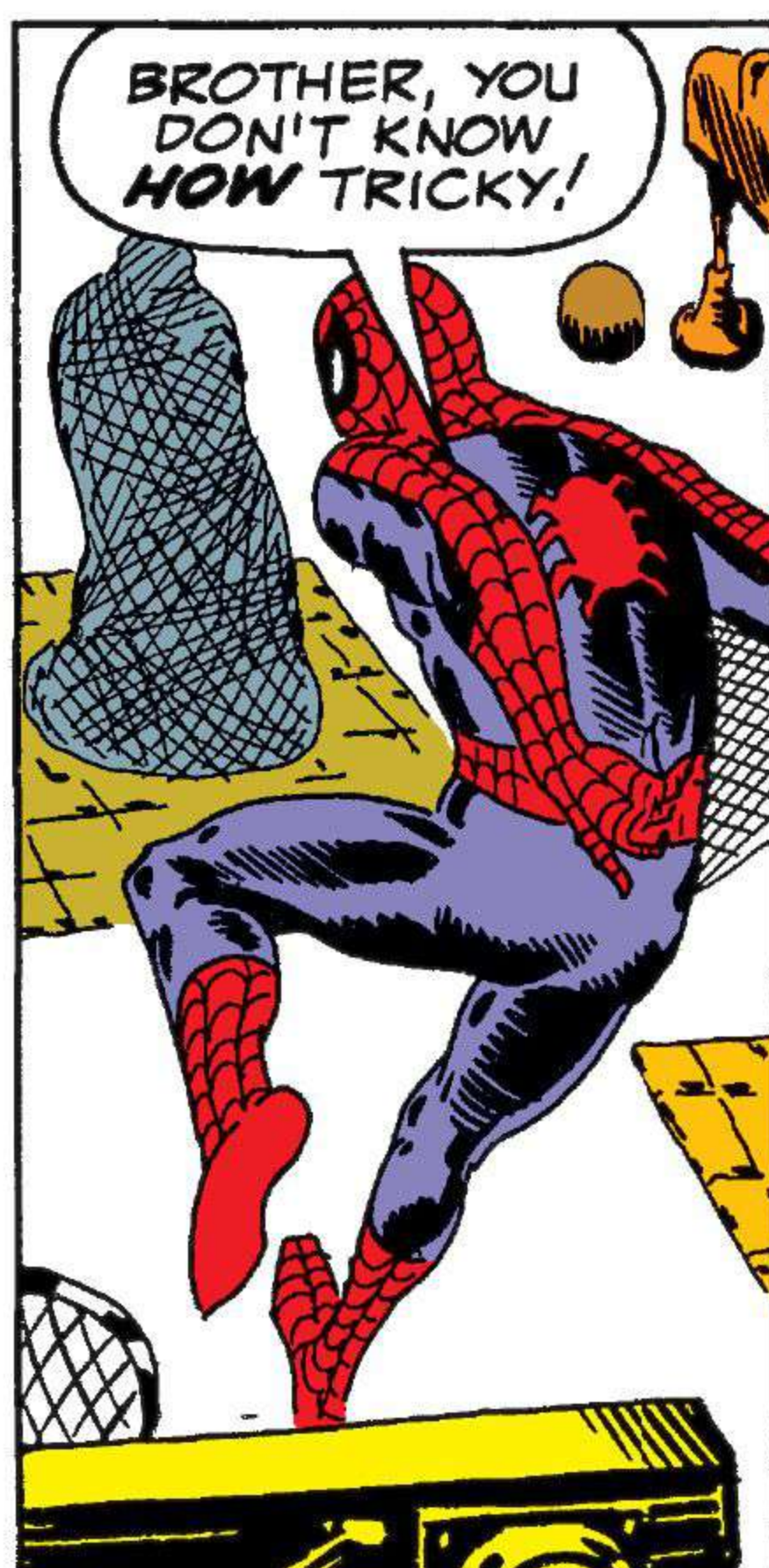
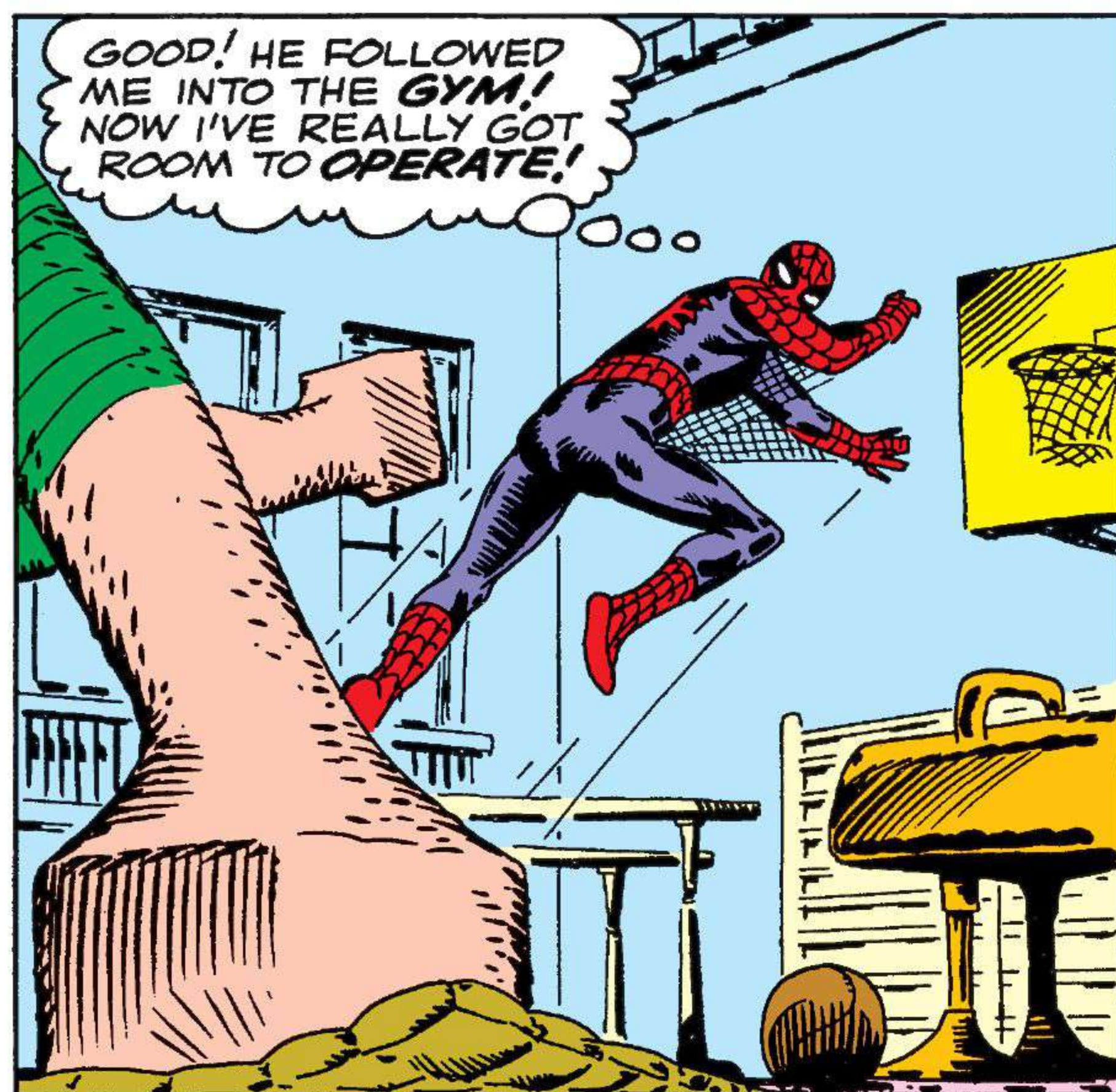
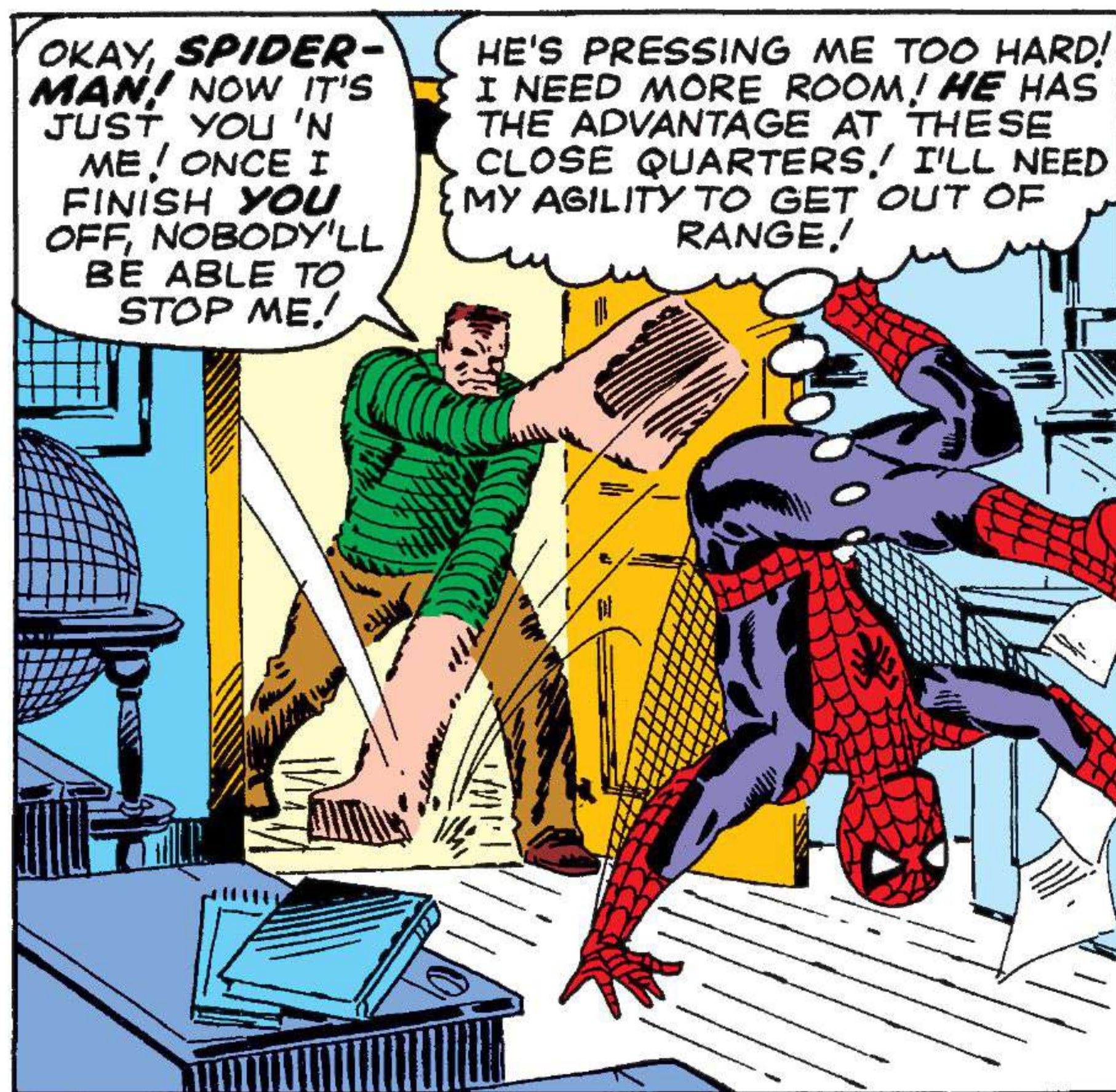
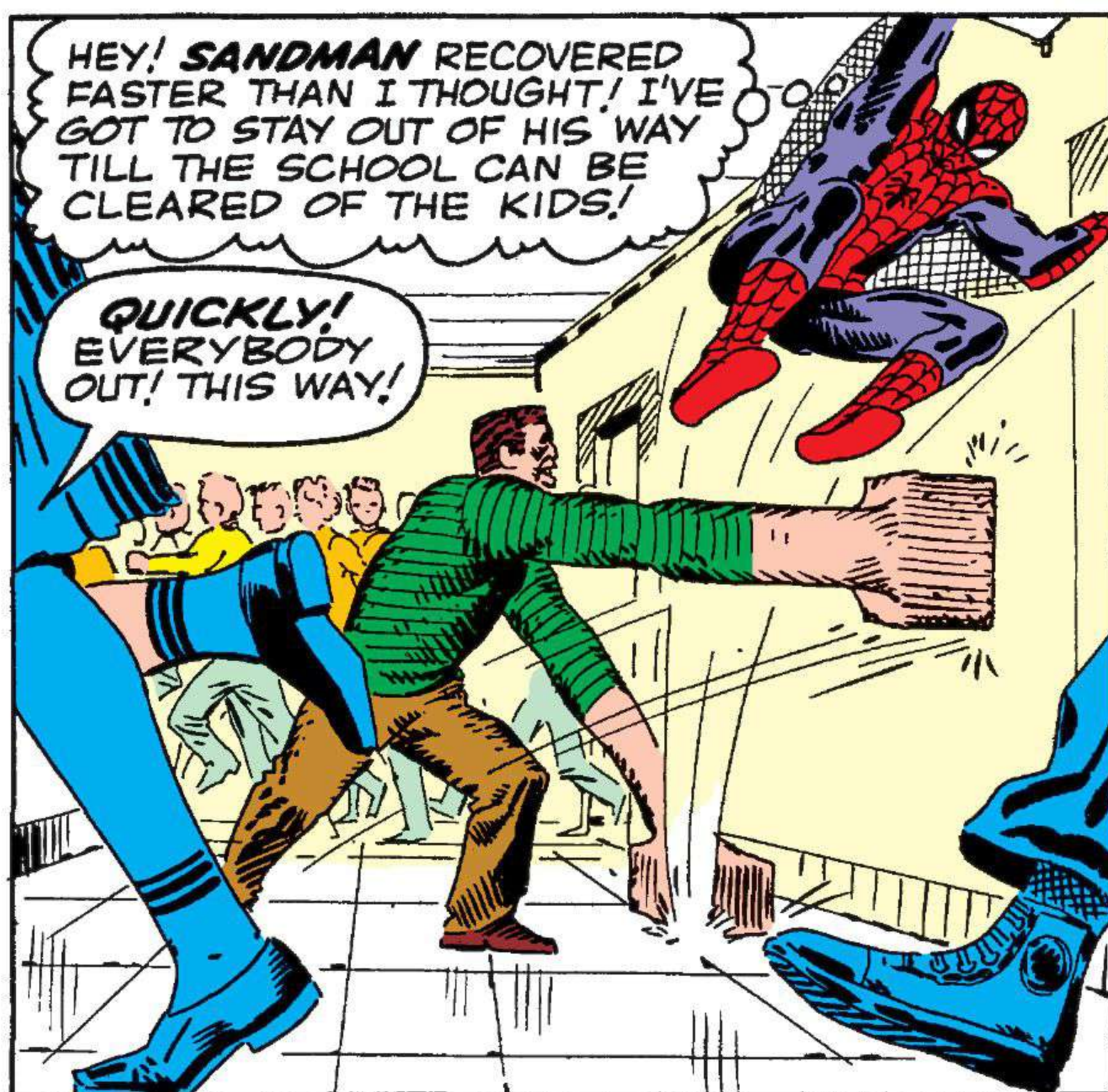
BUT, OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM DOOR, THE RETURNING **PETER PARKER** HAS OVERHEARD THE COMMOTION,
AND, MAKING A RAPID CHANGE, HE SUDDENLY BURSTS INTO THE ROOM LIKE A TORNADO, AS THE AMAZING
SPIDER-MAN!!

YOU'VE GOT THAT BACKWARDS,
LOUD-MOUTH! **YOU'RE** THE ONE WHO'S
GOT A LOT TO LEARN!

SPIDER-MAN!!

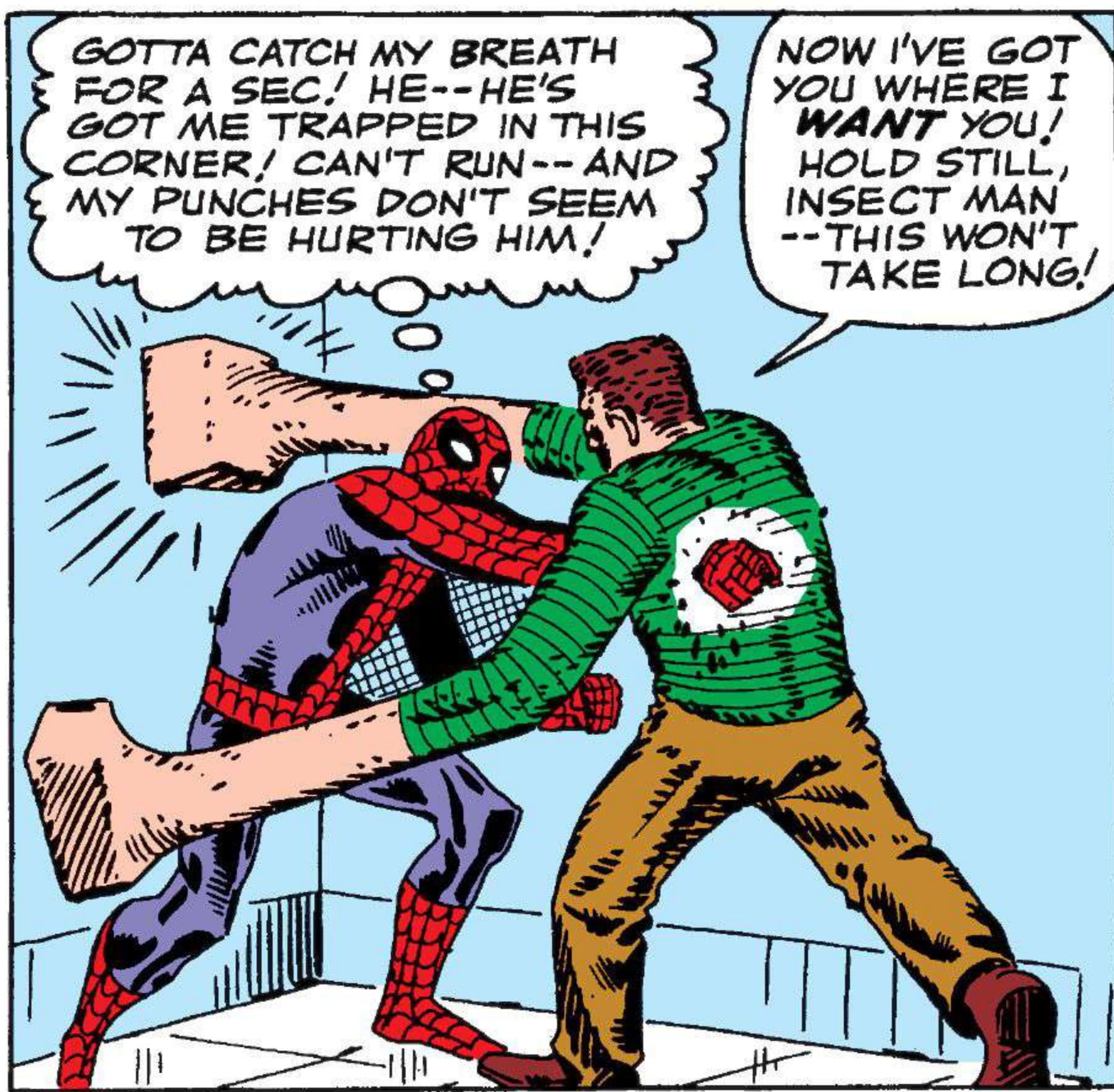
WOW-EEEE!
THIS SURE HAS
STUDYING
CALCULUS BEAT
ALL HOLLOW!!







I'M TRYING TO SOUND CONFIDENT TO HIM, BUT I'LL BE **BLAMED** IF I KNOW WHAT TO TRY **NEXT!!** HE'S SURE NO SITTING DUCK!



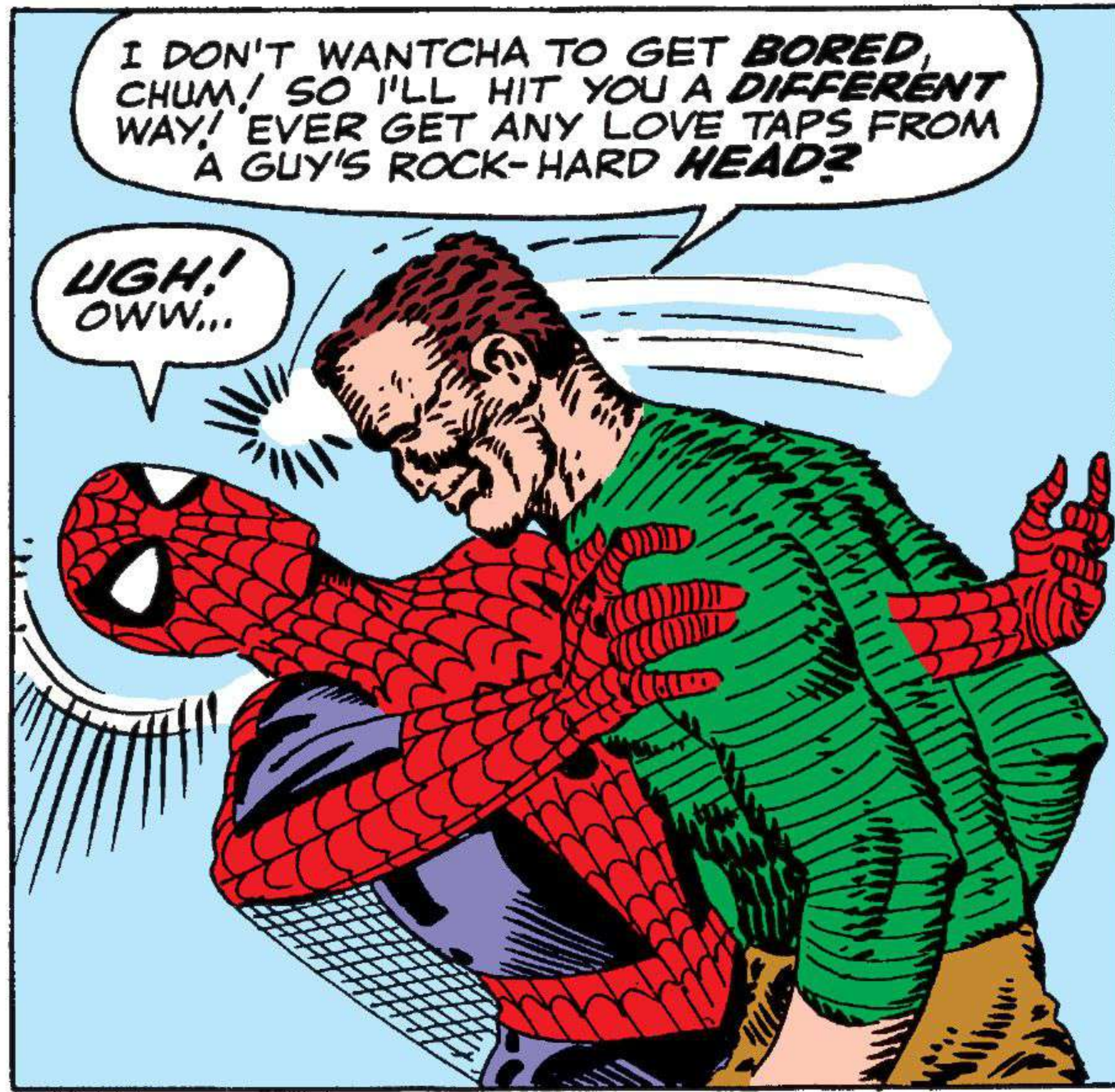
GOTTA CATCH MY BREATH FOR A SEC! HE--HE'S GOT ME TRAPPED IN THIS CORNER! CAN'T RUN-- AND MY PUNCHES DON'T SEEM TO BE HURTING HIM!

NOW I'VE GOT YOU WHERE I **WANT YOU!** HOLD STILL, INSECT MAN --THIS WON'T TAKE LONG!



ALL RIGHT, IF YOU WANNA **KEEP** PUNCHIN' ME, I'LL MAKE IT **EASY** FOR YA! **THERE--** I MADE MYSELF ALL NICE AND SANDY AGAIN! AND **NOW--**

MY FIST WENT RIGHT **THRU** HIM! BUT, HE MADE HIS BODY **HARD** AGAIN! I--I'M **STUCK!**

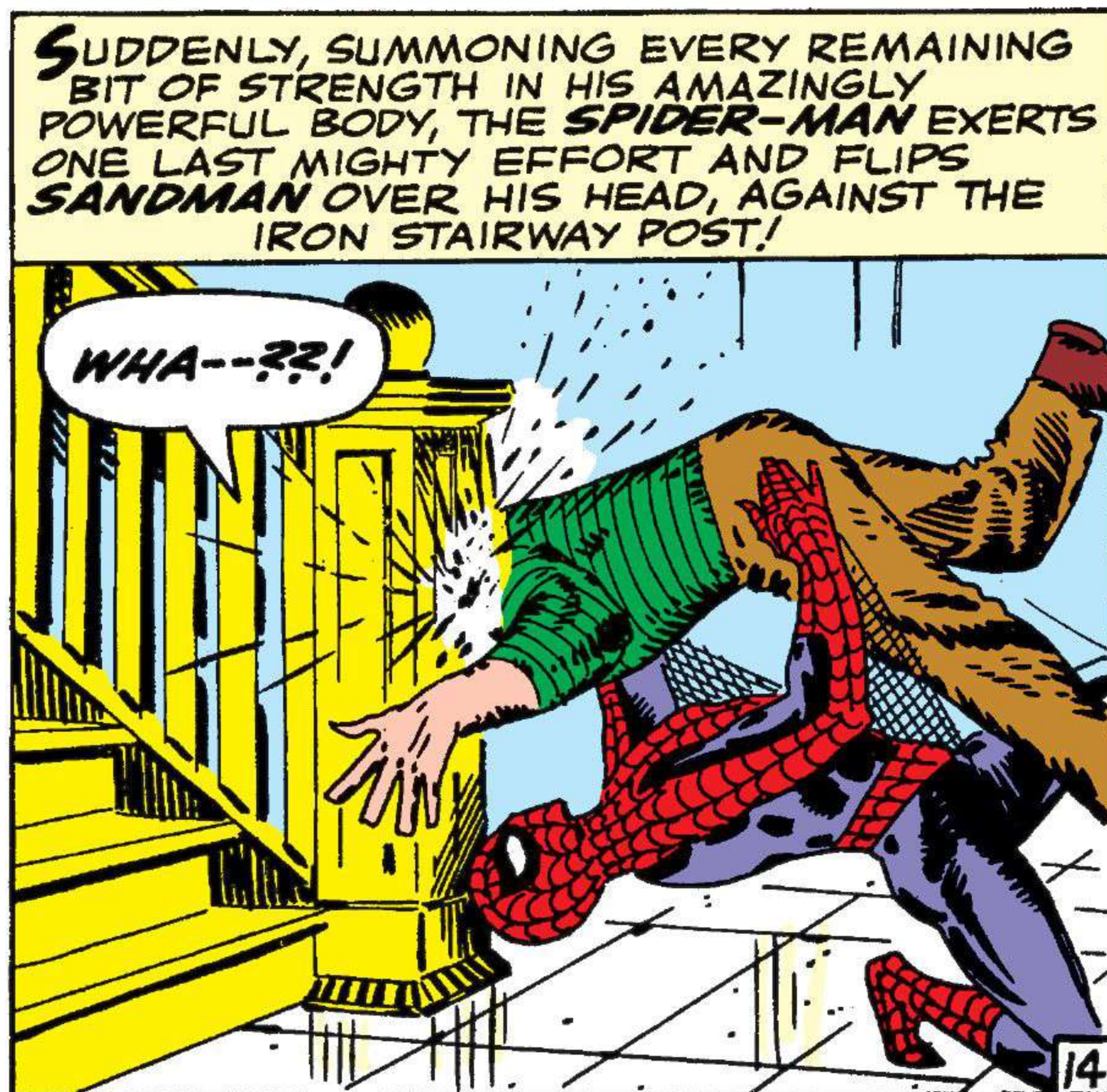


I DON'T WANTCHA TO GET **BORED**, CHUM! SO I'LL HIT YOU A **DIFFERENT** WAY! EVER GET ANY LOVE TAPS FROM A GUY'S ROCK-HARD **HEAD?**

UGH!
OWW...



IF--IF I DIDN'T HAVE MY **SPIDER STRENGTH**, I'D BE OUT FOR THE COUNT NOW! CAN'T TAKE MUCH MORE OF THIS! GOTTA DO **SOMETHING!!**



SUDDENLY, SUMMONING EVERY REMAINING BIT OF STRENGTH IN HIS AMAZINGLY POWERFUL BODY, THE **SPIDER-MAN** EXERTS ONE LAST MIGHTY EFFORT AND FLIPS **SANDMAN** OVER HIS HEAD, AGAINST THE IRON STAIRWAY POST!

WHA--??!

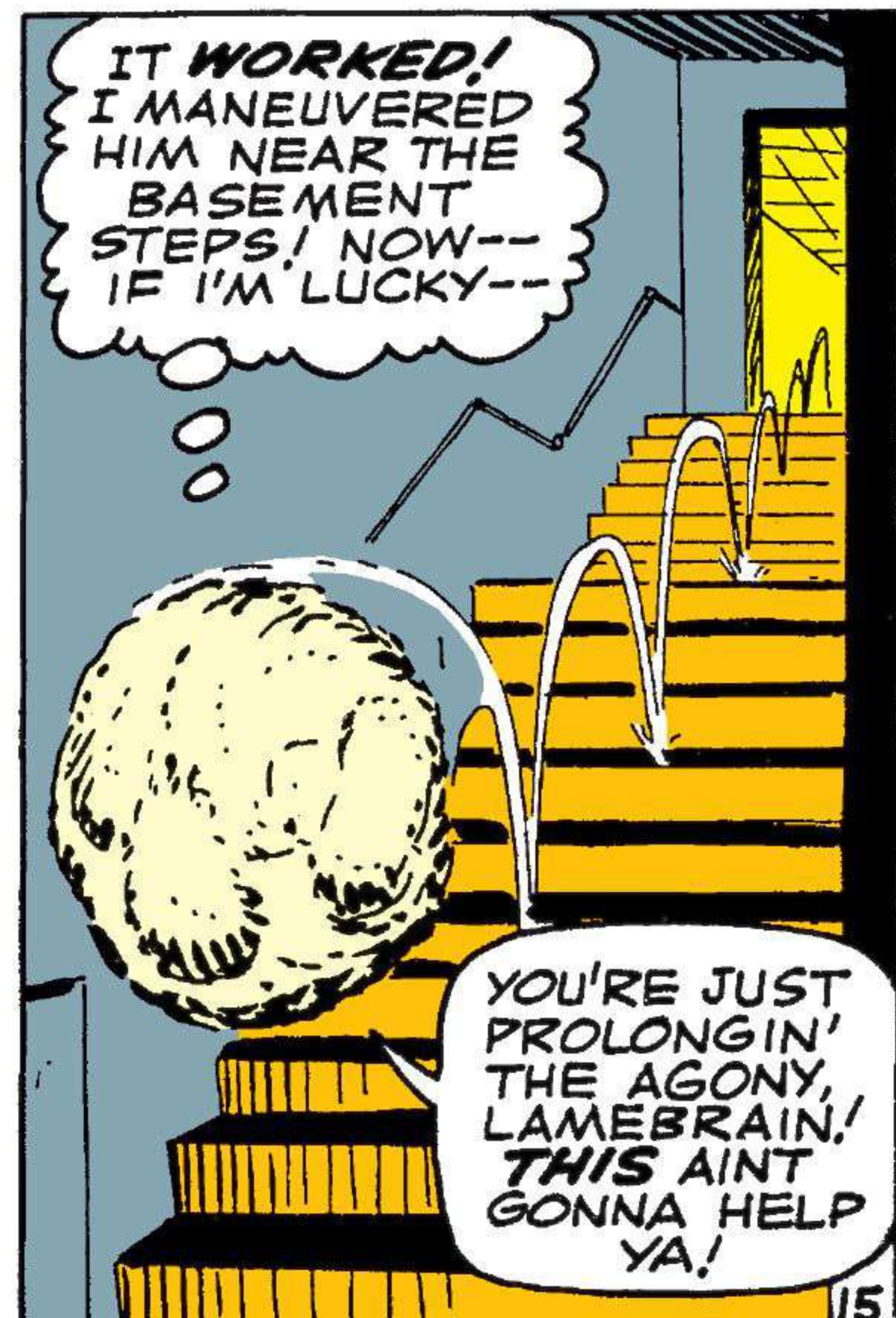
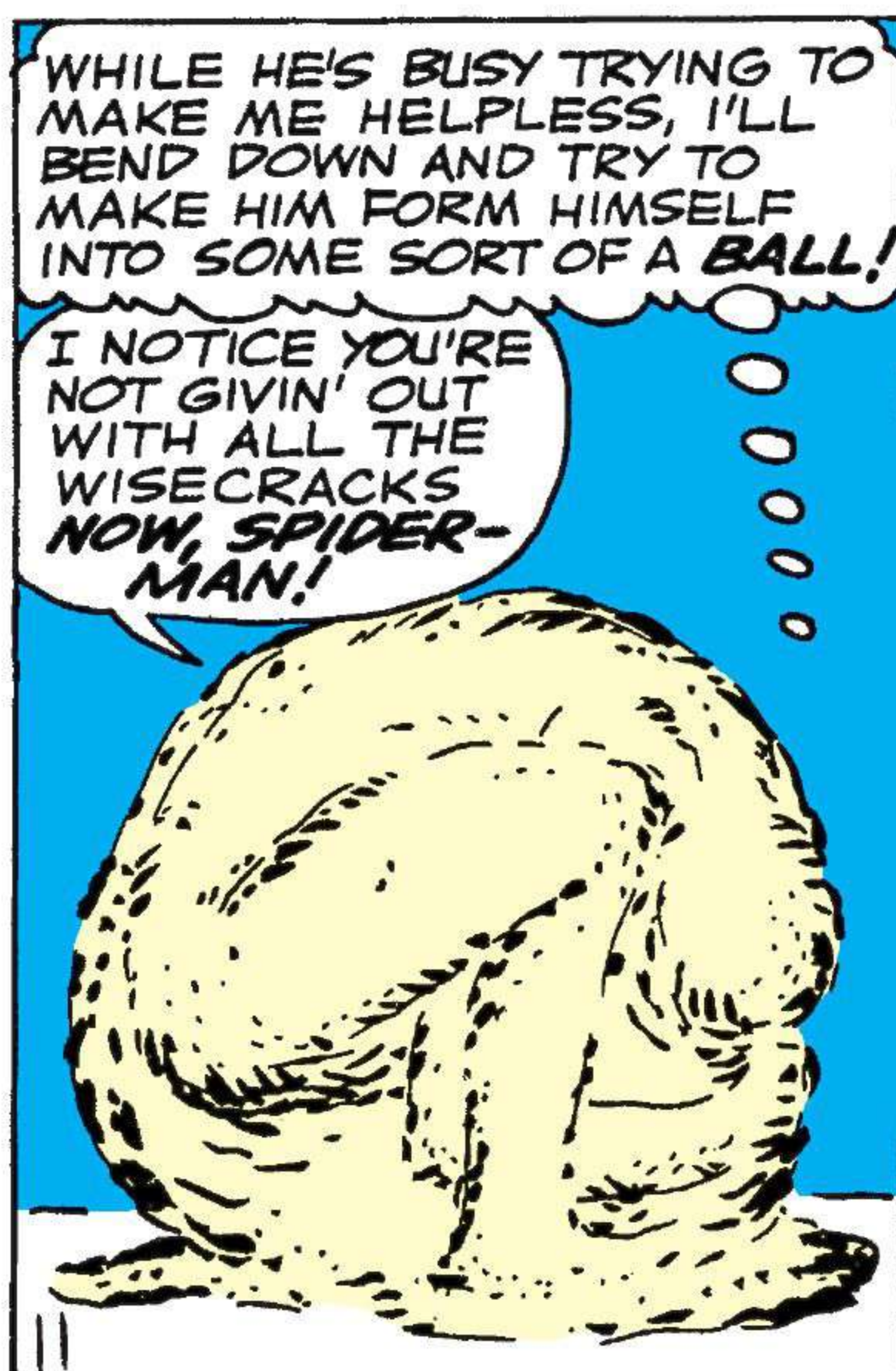
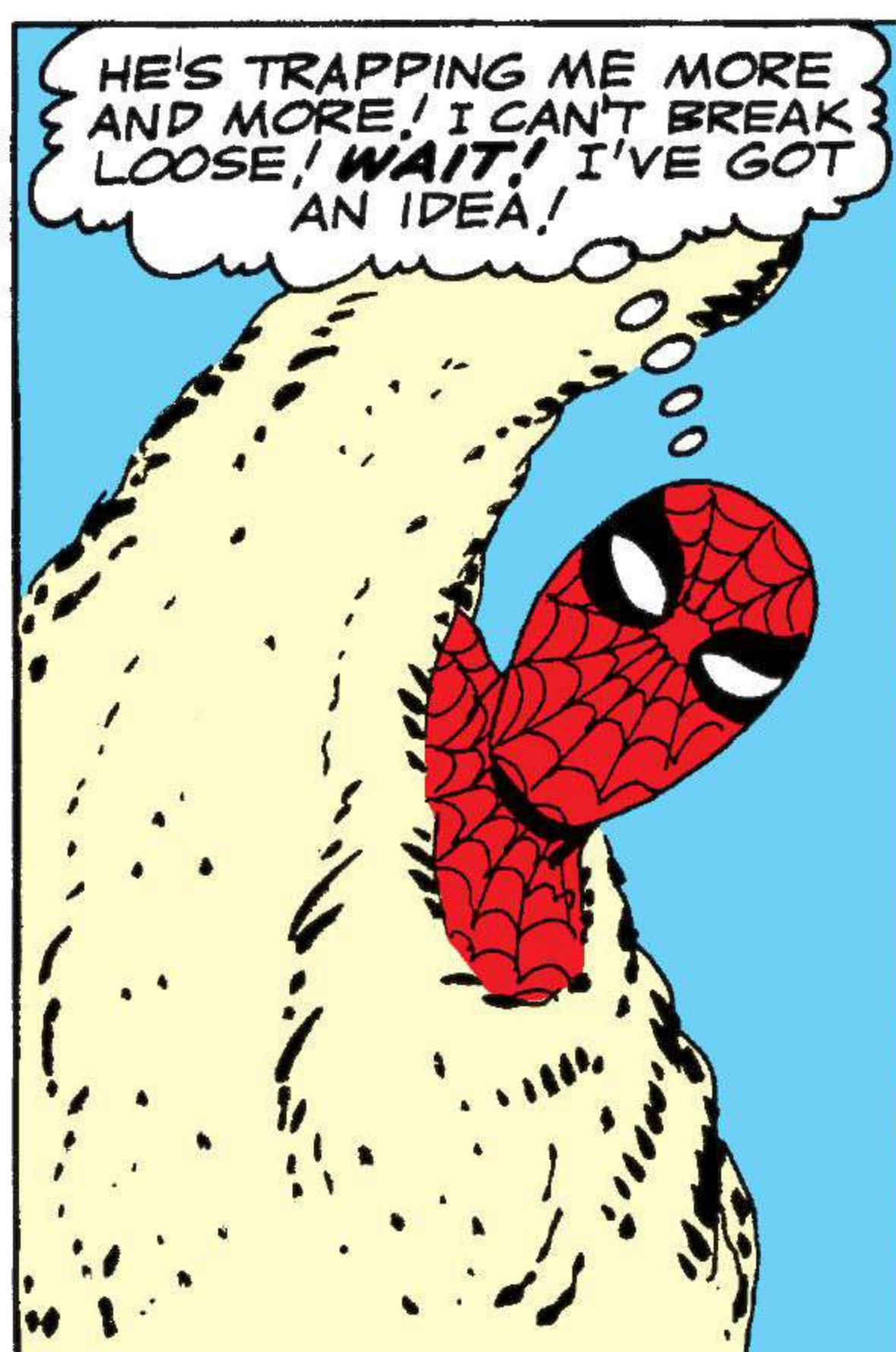
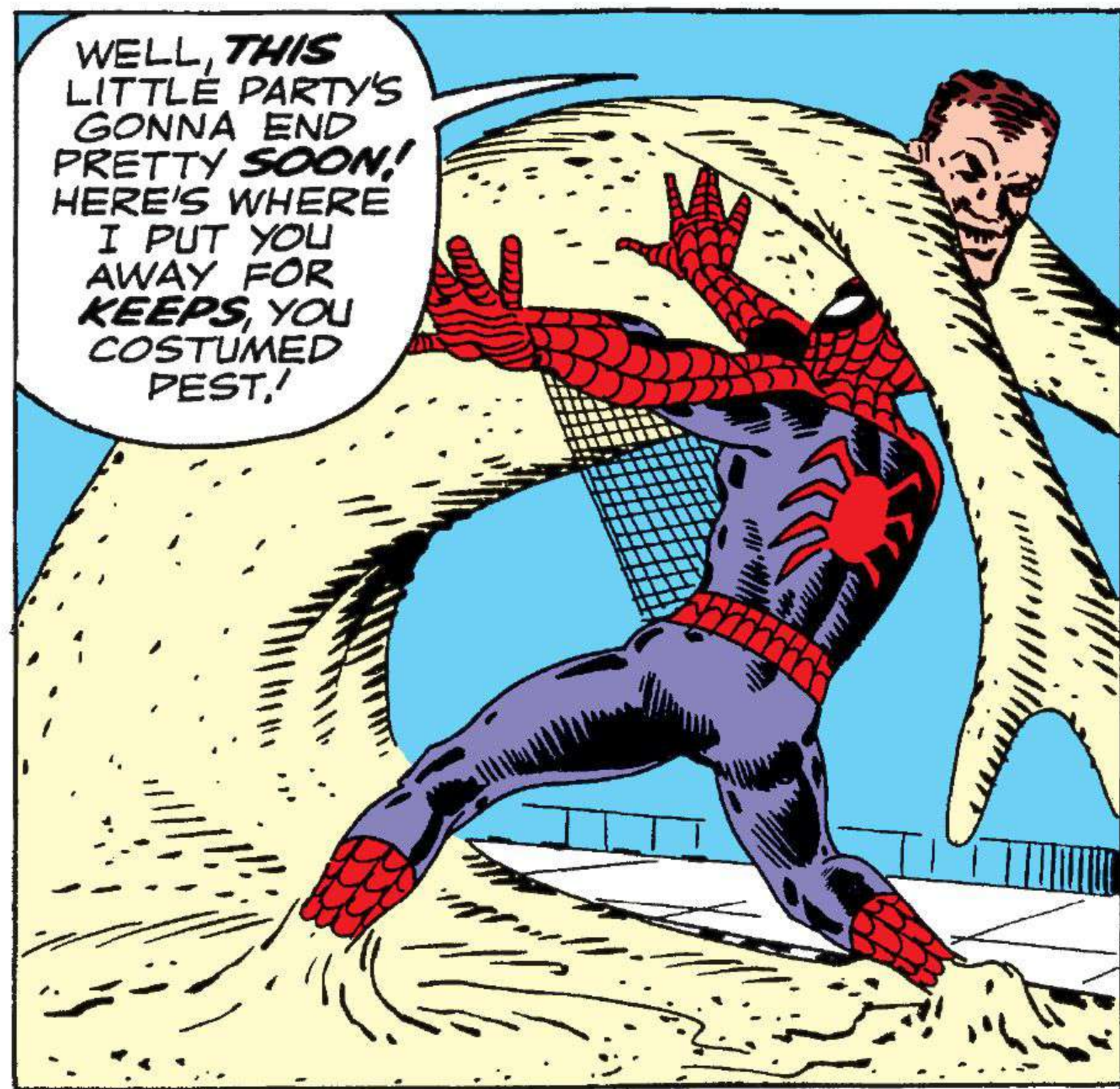
THE AWESOME CRIMINAL RELEASES HIS HOLD ON **SPIDER-MAN** AS HE SHATTERS INTO COUNTLESS GRAINS OF SAND...

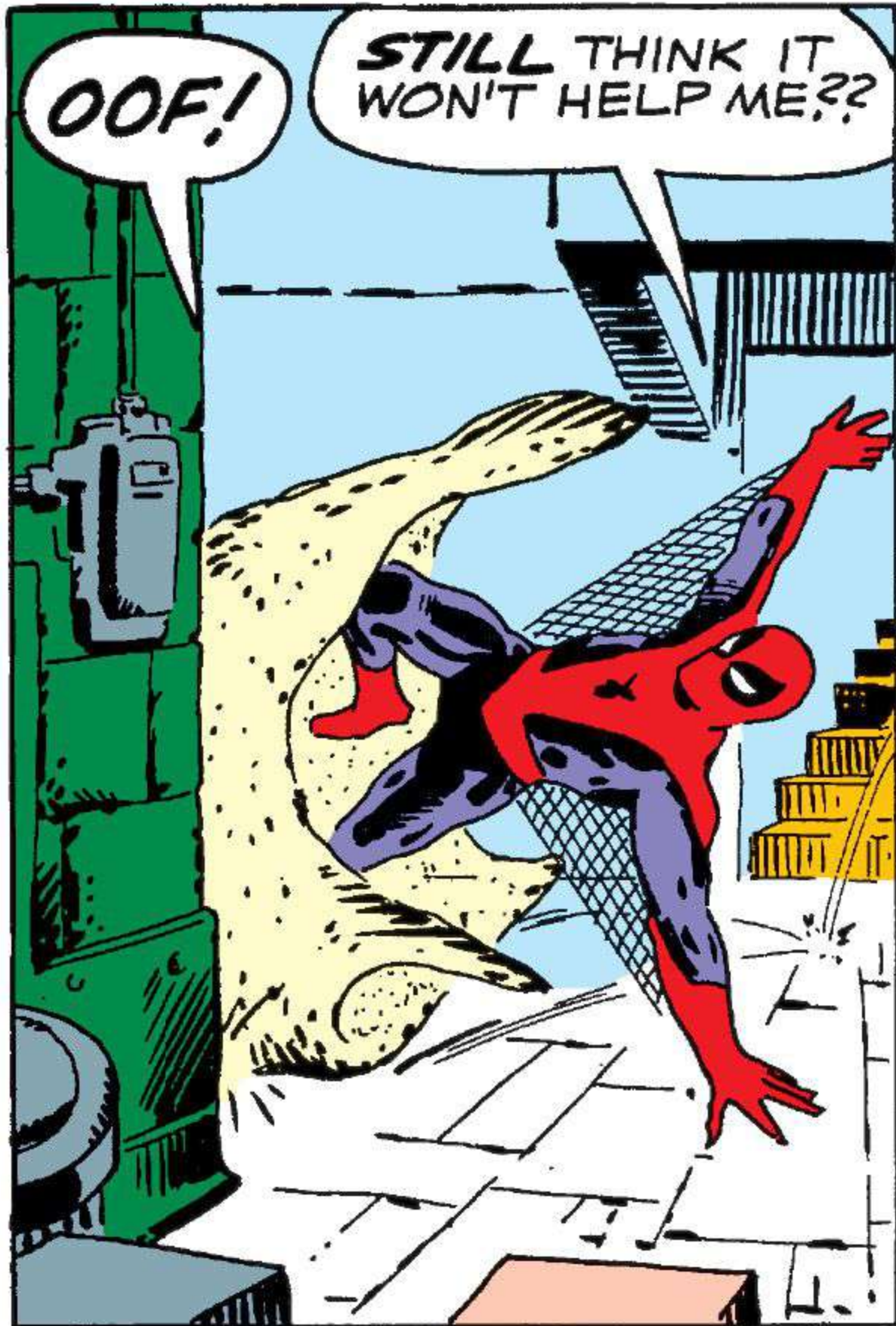


--BUT FOR HOW LONG? HE'S **ALREADY** REFORMING THE SANDY ELEMENTS OF HIS BODY INTO A SOLID MASS!



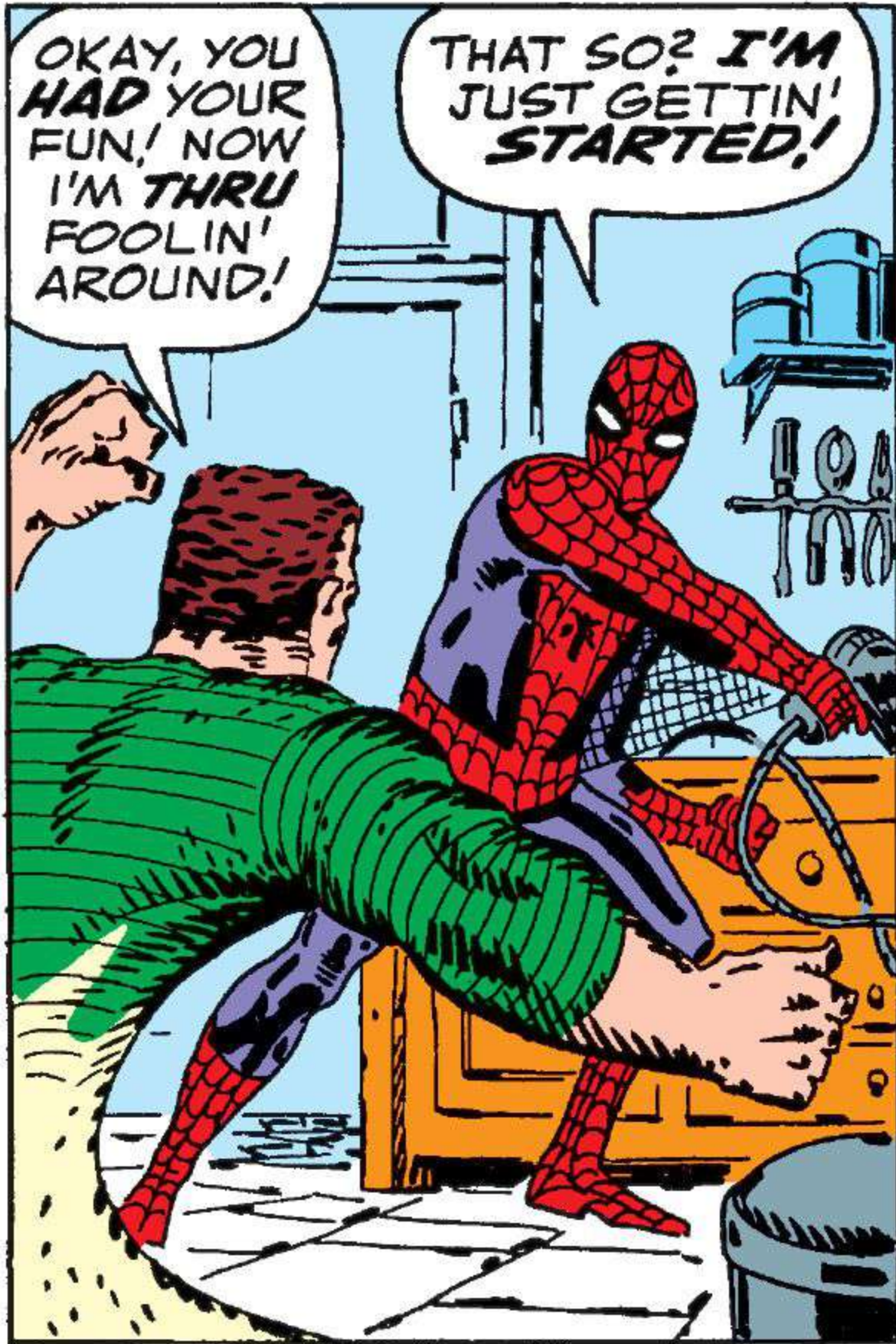
NICE TRY, **SPIDER-MAN!** BUT A FAT LOT OF **GOOD** IT'LL DO YA!!





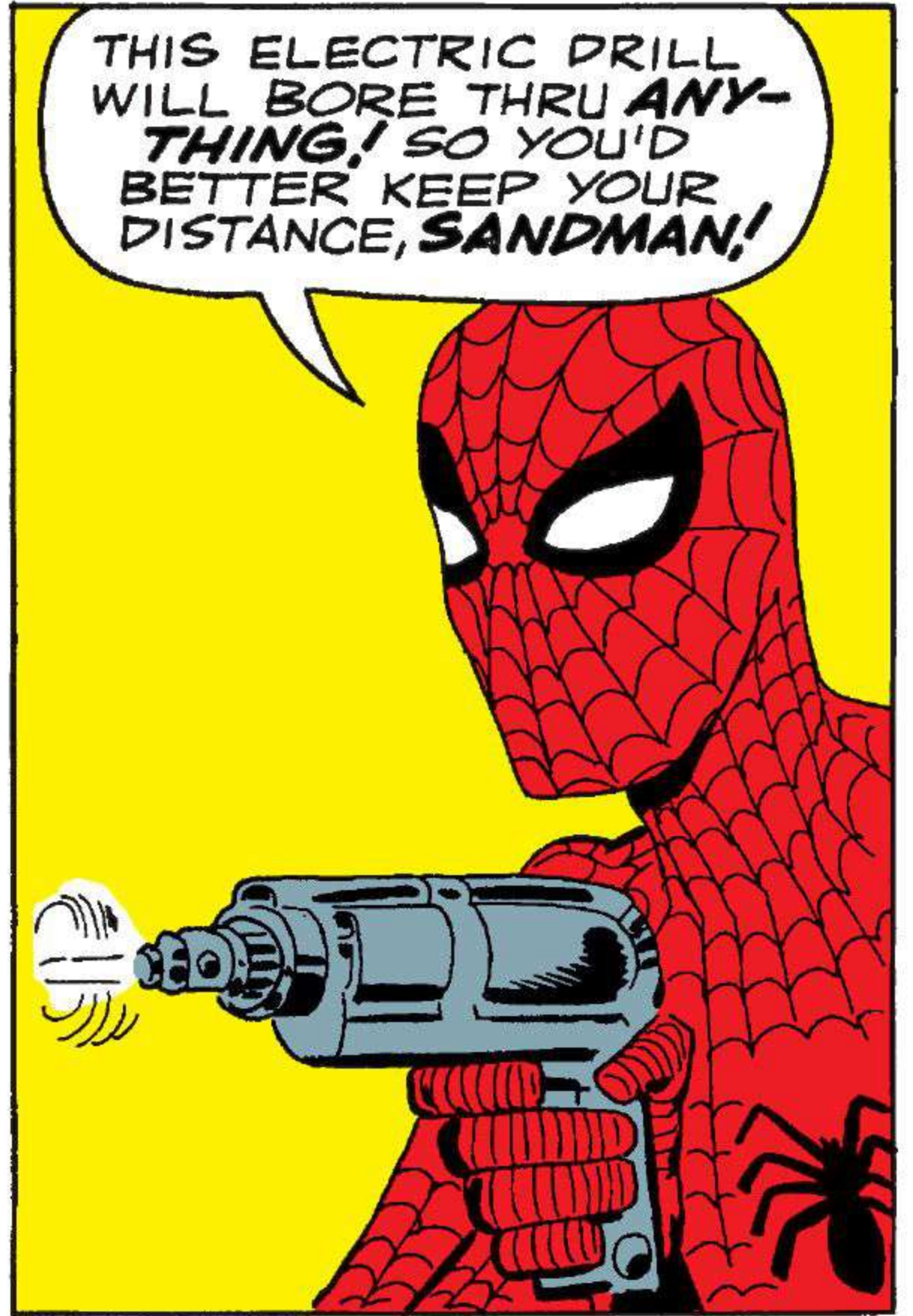
OOF!

STILL THINK IT WON'T HELP ME??



OKAY, YOU HAD YOUR FUN! NOW I'M THRU FOOLIN' AROUND!

THAT SO? I'M JUST GETTIN' STARTED!

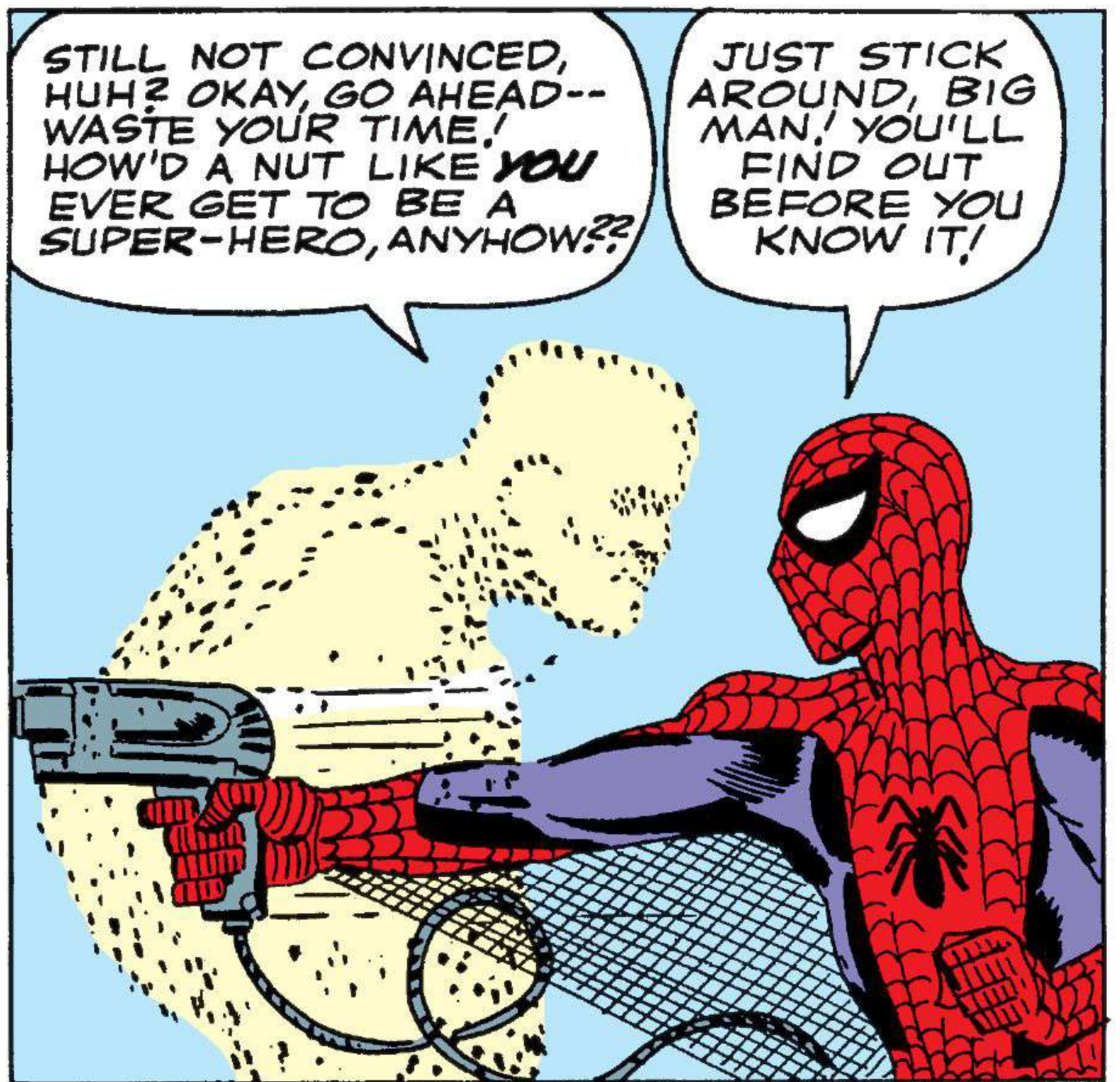


THIS ELECTRIC DRILL WILL BORE THRU **ANY-THING!** SO YOU'D BETTER KEEP YOUR DISTANCE, **SANDMAN!**



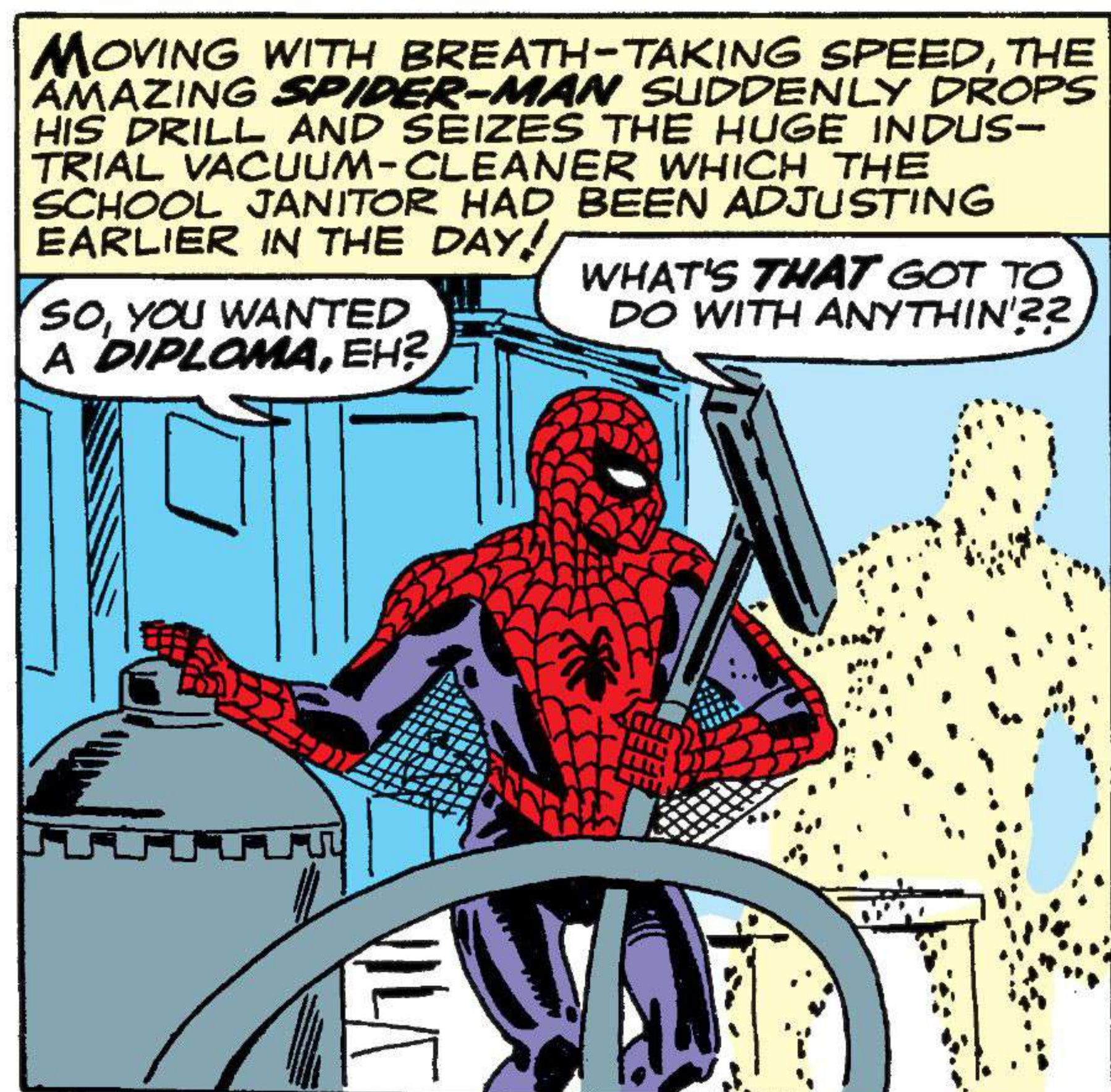
DON'T YOU **EVER** LEARN?? ALL I GOTTA DO IS MAKE MY BODY LIKE **SAND** AGAIN! THAT DUMB THING CAN'T HURT **ME!**

SO FAR, SO GOOD! HE DOESN'T SUSPECT THAT THAT'S JUST WHAT I **WANT** HIM TO DO!



STILL NOT CONVINCED, HUH? OKAY, GO AHEAD-- WASTE YOUR TIME! HOW'D A NUT LIKE **YOU** EVER GET TO BE A SUPER-HERO, ANYHOW??

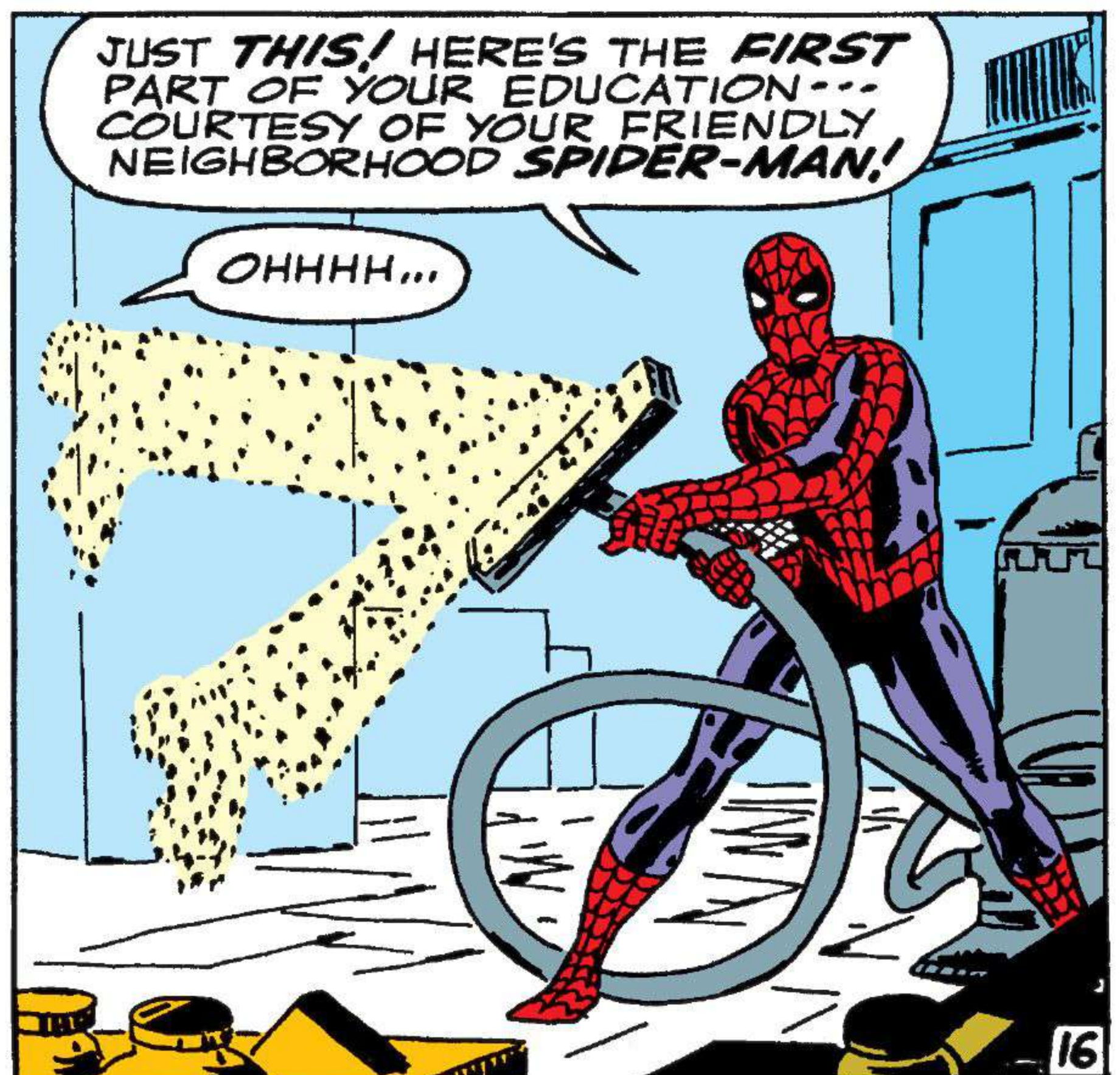
JUST STICK AROUND, BIG MAN! YOU'LL FIND OUT BEFORE YOU KNOW IT!



MOVING WITH BREATH-TAKING SPEED, THE AMAZING **SPIDER-MAN** SUDDENLY DROPS HIS DRILL AND SEIZES THE HUGE INDUSTRIAL VACUUM-CLEANER WHICH THE SCHOOL JANITOR HAD BEEN ADJUSTING EARLIER IN THE DAY!

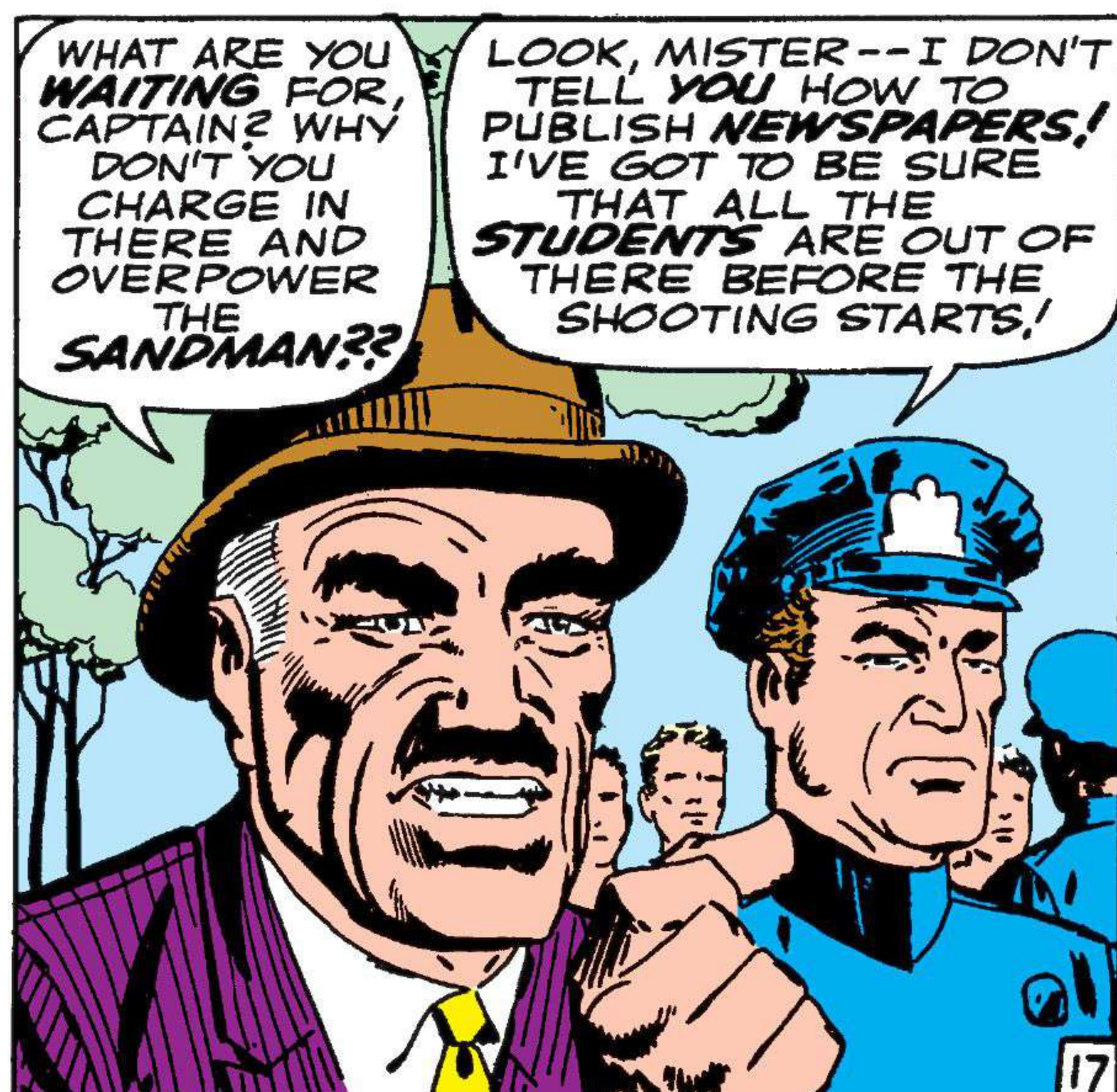
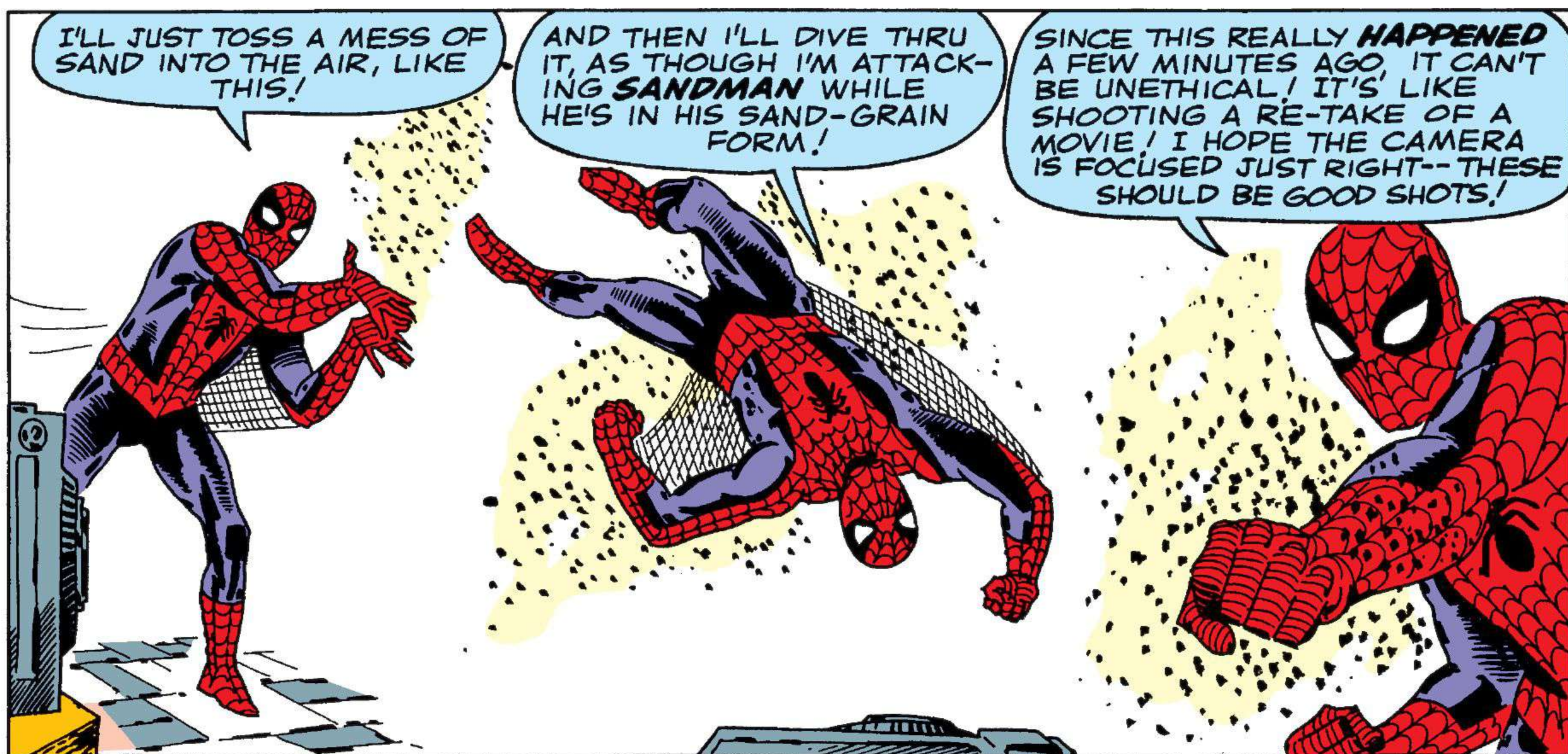
SO, YOU WANTED A **DIPLOMA**, EH?

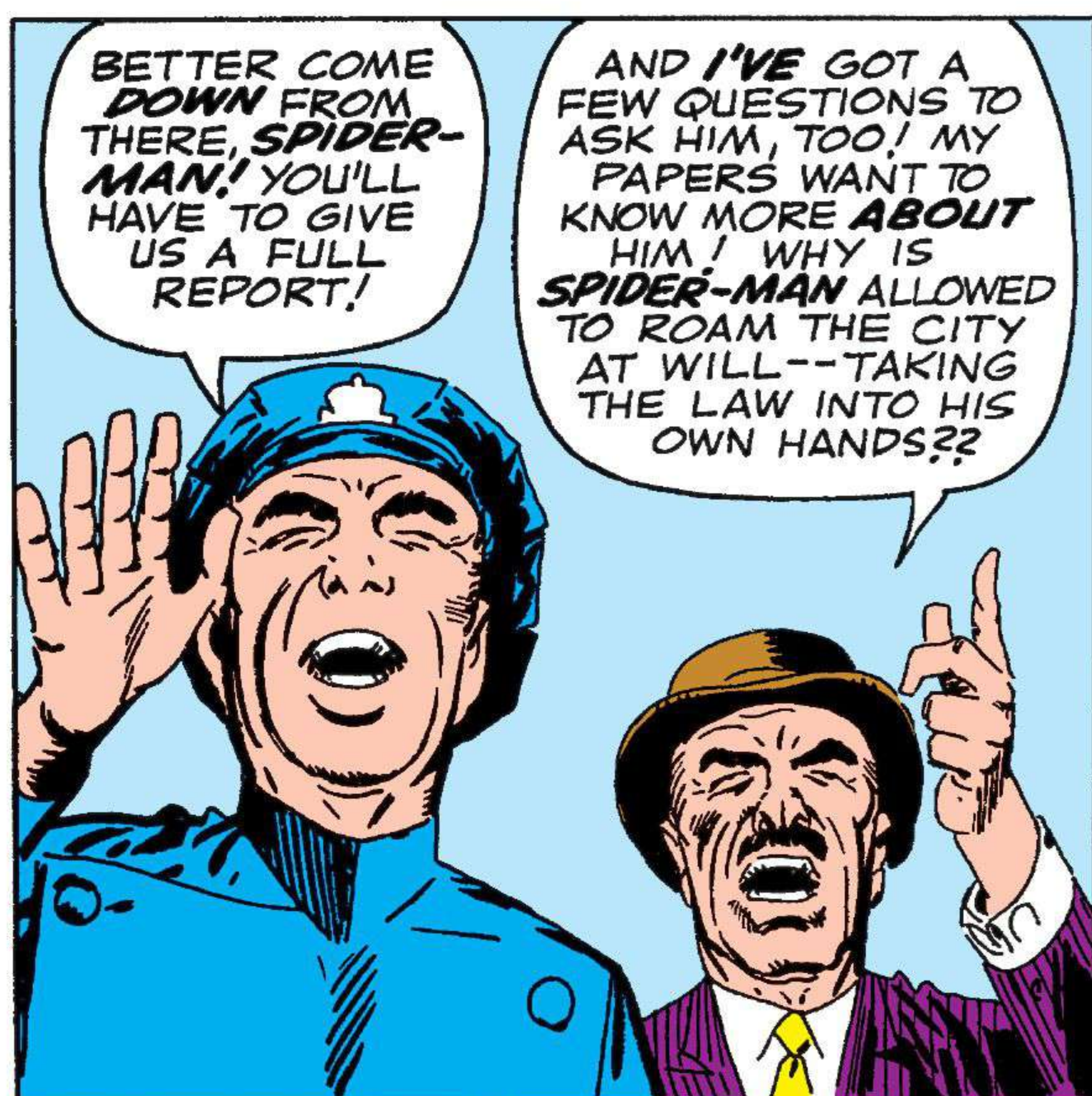
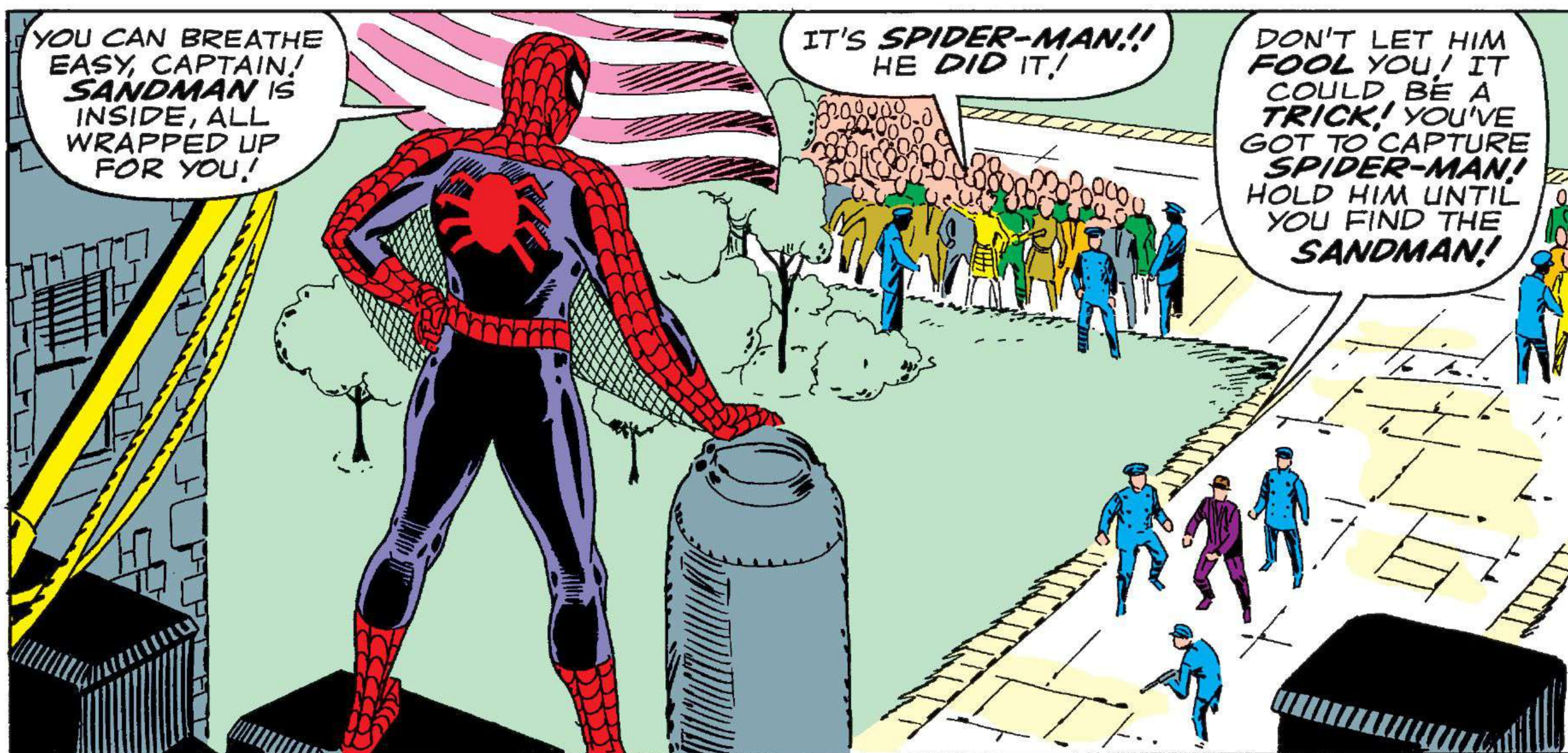
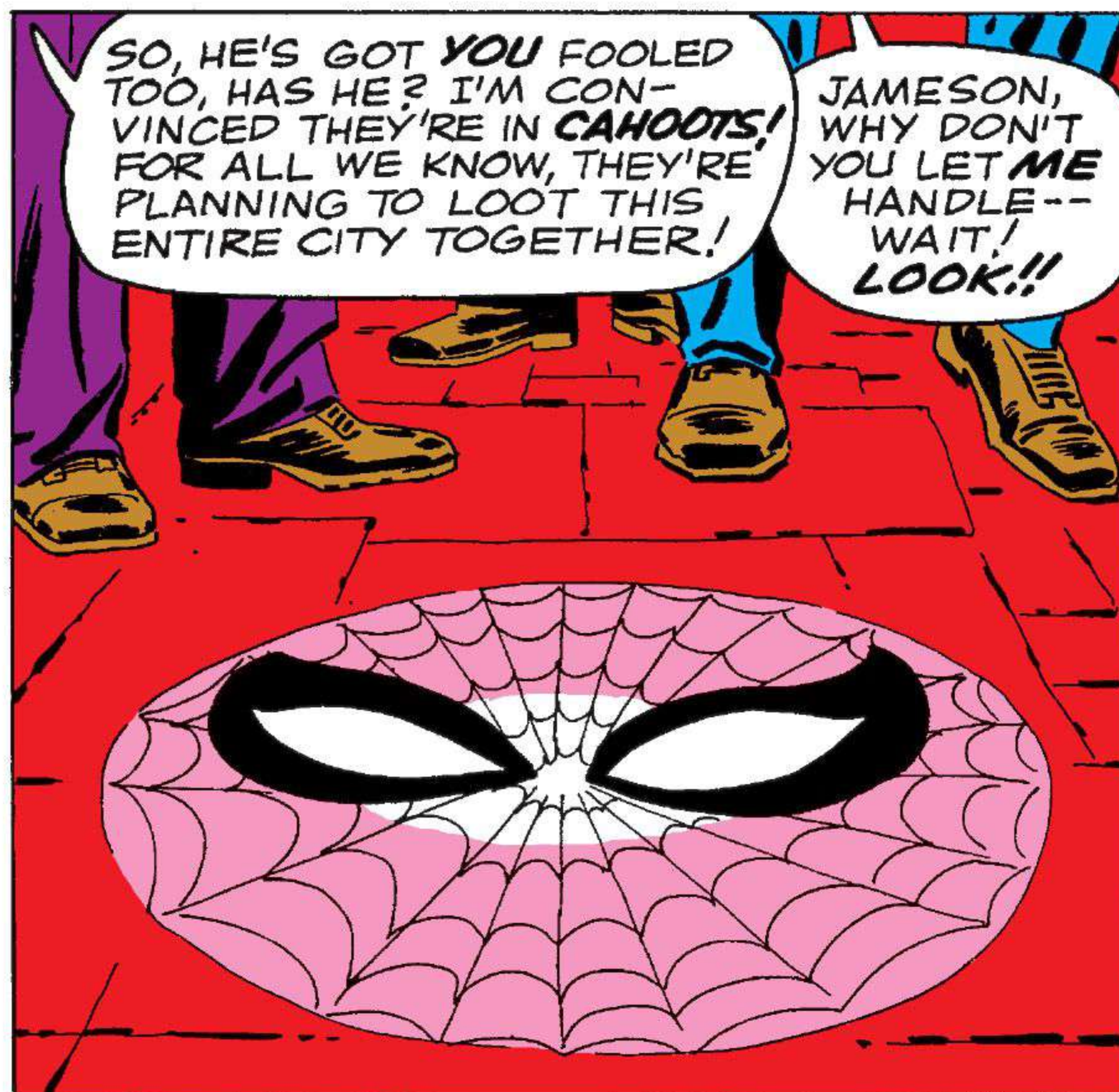
WHAT'S **THAT** GOT TO DO WITH ANYTHIN'??

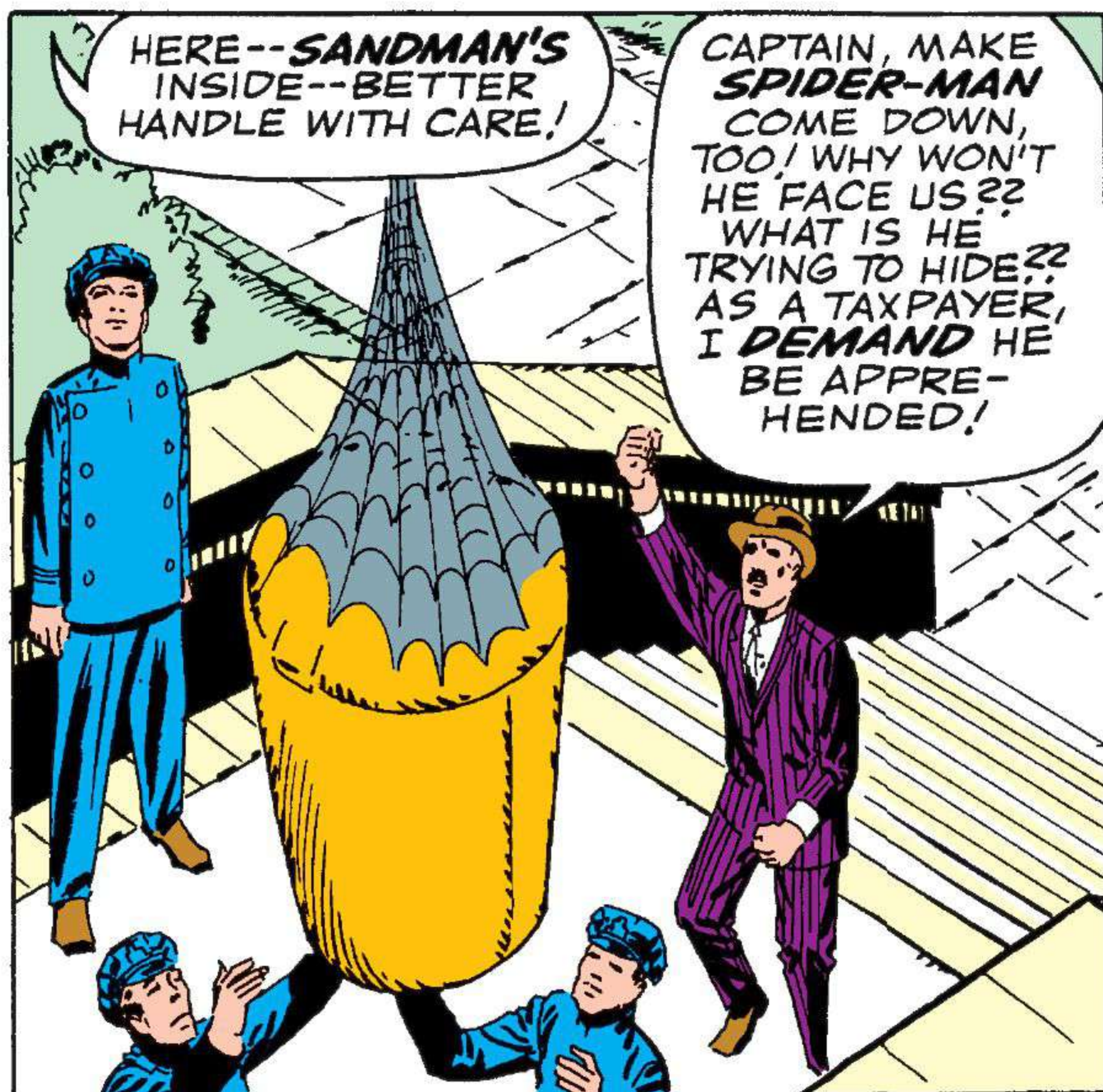


JUST **THIS!** HERE'S THE **FIRST** PART OF YOUR EDUCATION--- COURTESY OF YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD **SPIDER-MAN!**

OHHHH...

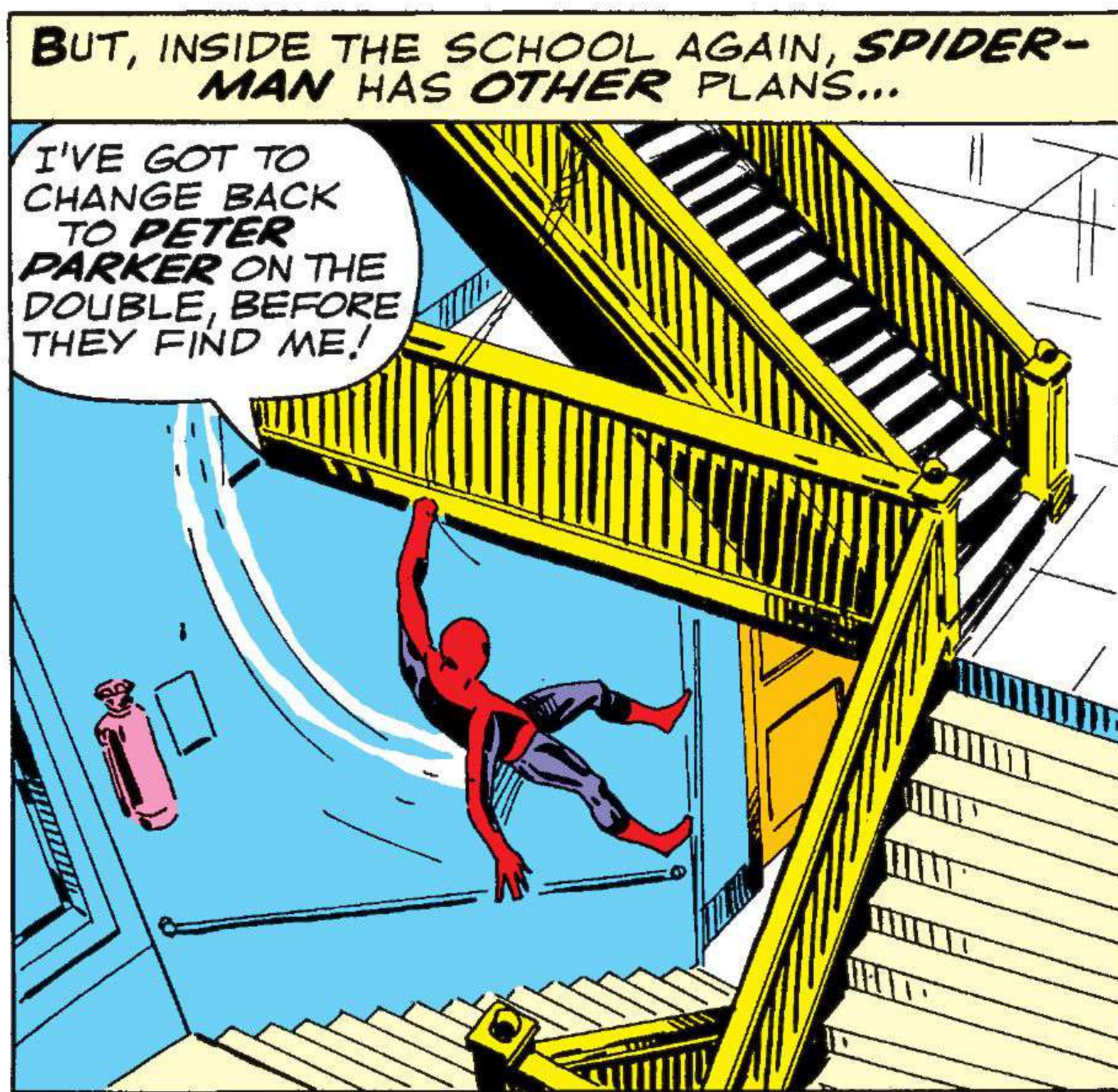






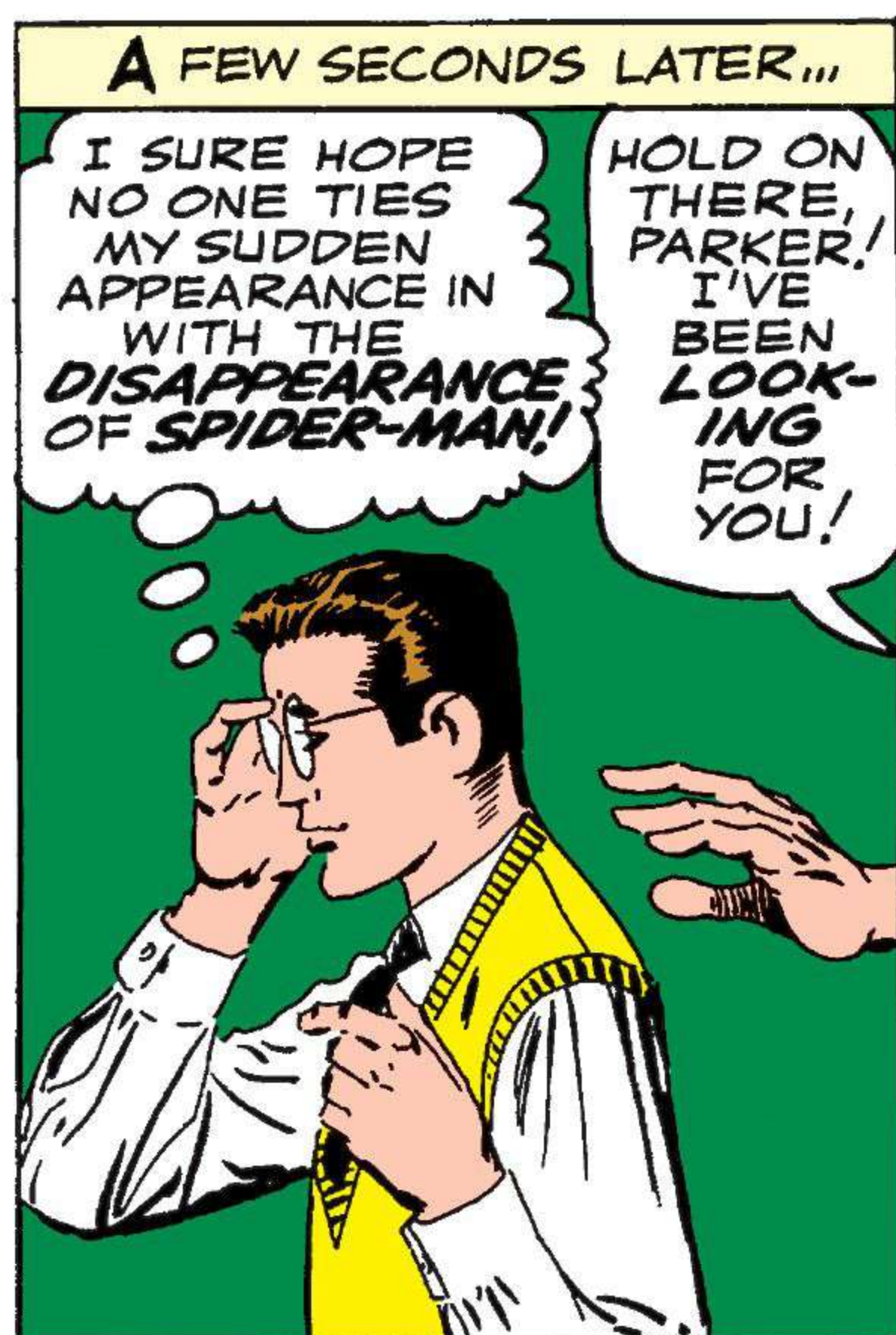
HERE--**SANDMAN'S** INSIDE--BETTER HANDLE WITH CARE!

CAPTAIN, MAKE **SPIDER-MAN** COME DOWN, TOO! WHY WON'T HE FACE US?? WHAT IS HE TRYING TO HIDE?? AS A TAXPAYER, I **DEMAND** HE BE APPREHENDED!



BUT, INSIDE THE SCHOOL AGAIN, **SPIDER-MAN** HAS OTHER PLANS...

I'VE GOT TO CHANGE BACK TO **PETER PARKER** ON THE DOUBLE, BEFORE THEY FIND ME!



A FEW SECONDS LATER...

I SURE HOPE NO ONE TIES MY SUDDEN APPEARANCE IN WITH THE **DISAPPEARANCE OF SPIDER-MAN!**

HOLD ON THERE, PARKER! I'VE BEEN **LOOK-ING** FOR YOU!



SO, YOU WERE HIDING IN THE SCHOOL, EH? GOOD BOY! DID YOU GET ANY EXCLUSIVE PICTURES OF THOSE TWO MENACES FOR ME??

YES SIR, I DID! I WAS, EH, KINDA LUCKY THIS TIME!



HERE'S THE FILM, MISTER JAMESON! I DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO HAVE IT DEVELOPED!

THAT'S ALL RIGHT! DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT! I'LL TAKE THE COST OF DEVELOPING OUT OF YOUR PAY!



NOT A SIGN OF **SPIDER-MAN**, CHIEF!

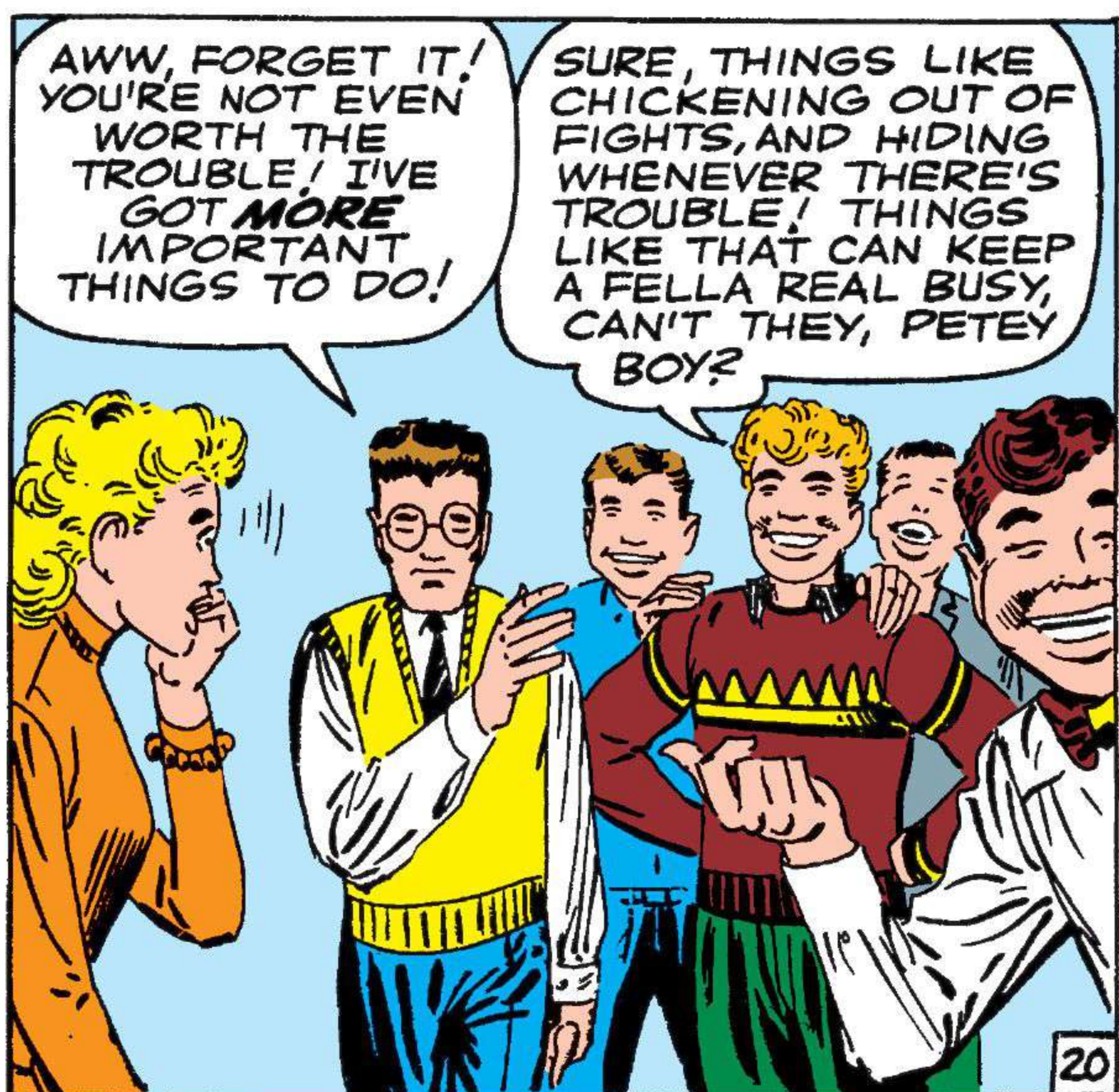
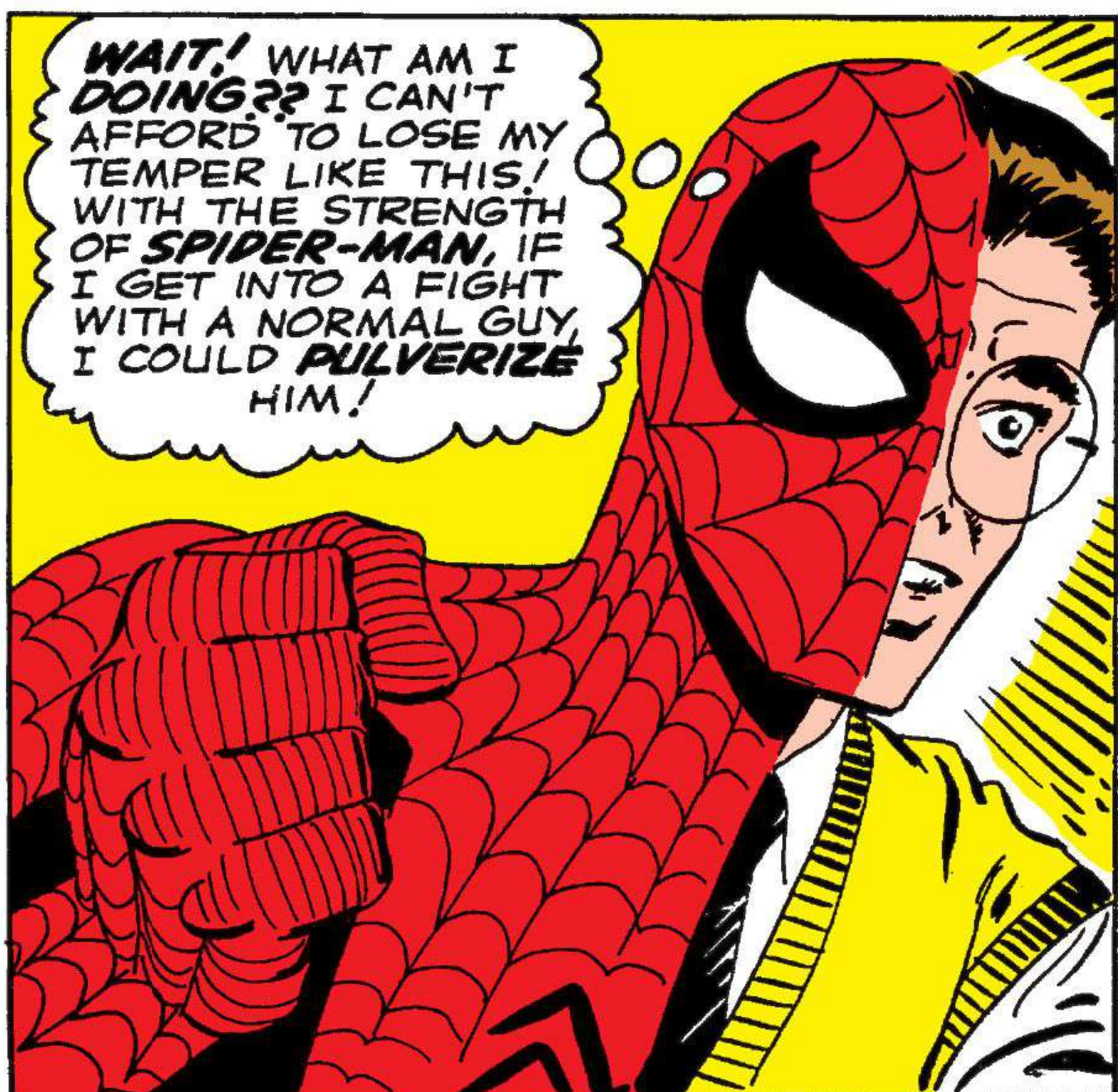
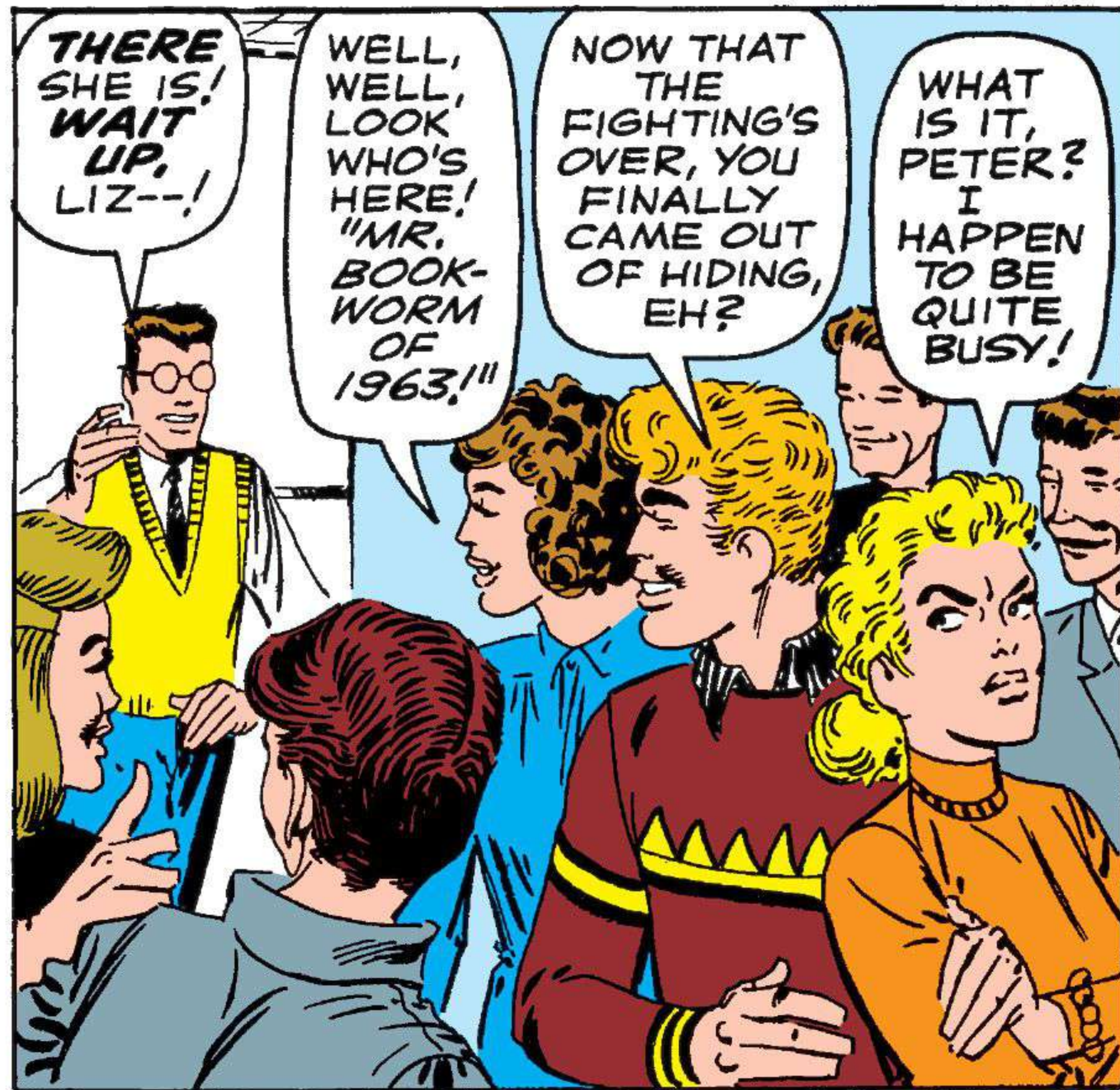
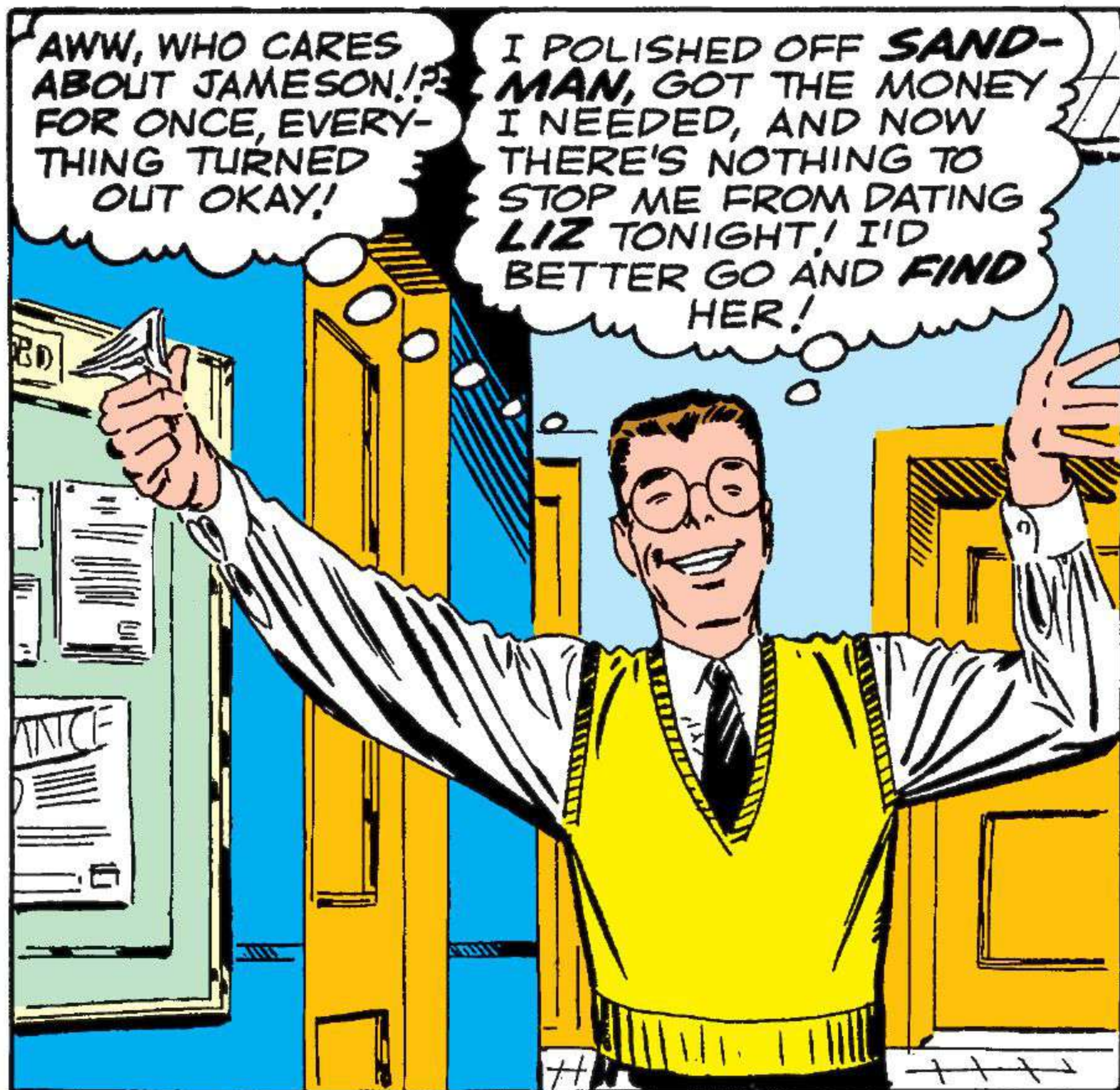
WELL, WE'VE NOTHING AGAINST HIM ANYWAY! AND WE **DO** HAVE **SANDMAN** UNDER WRAPS!

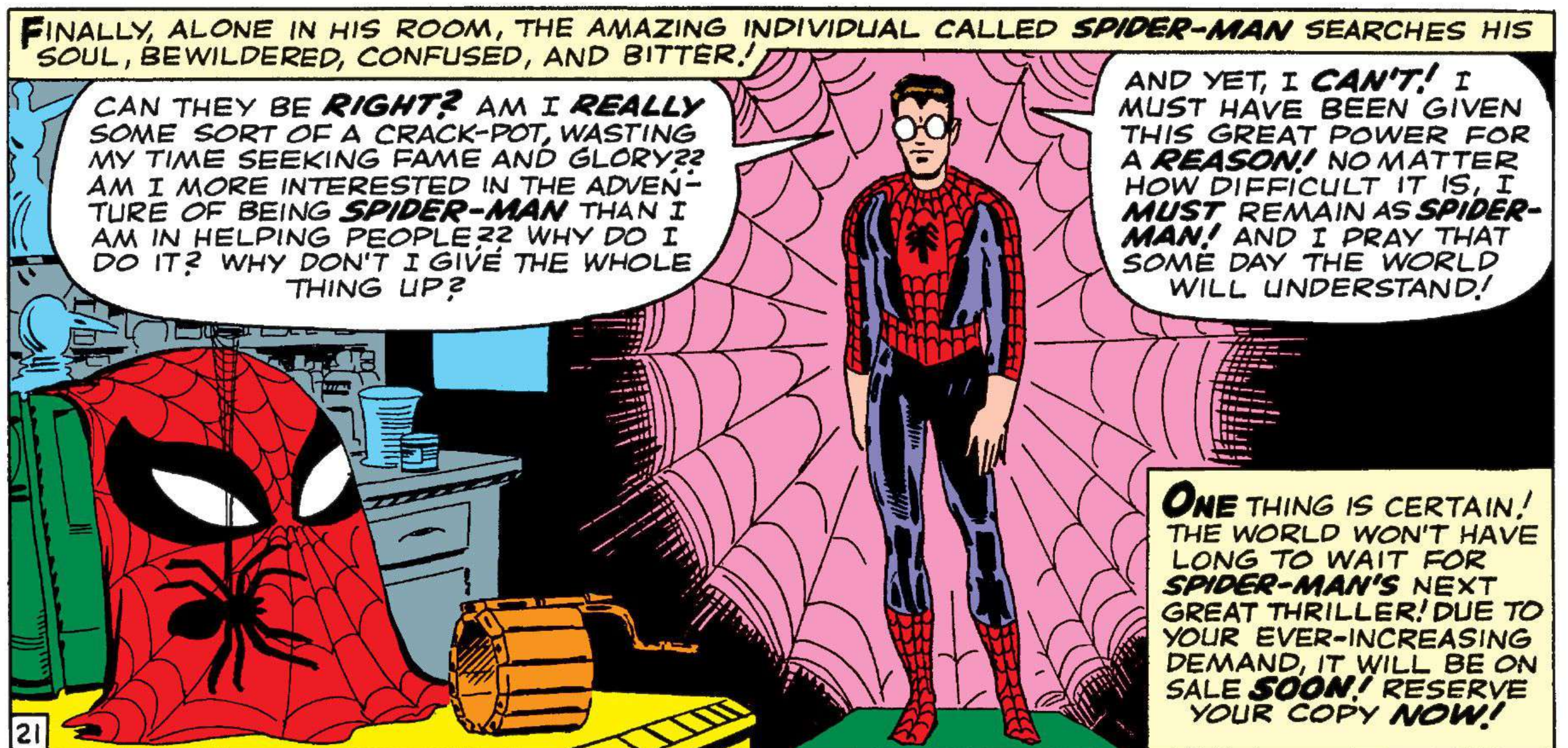
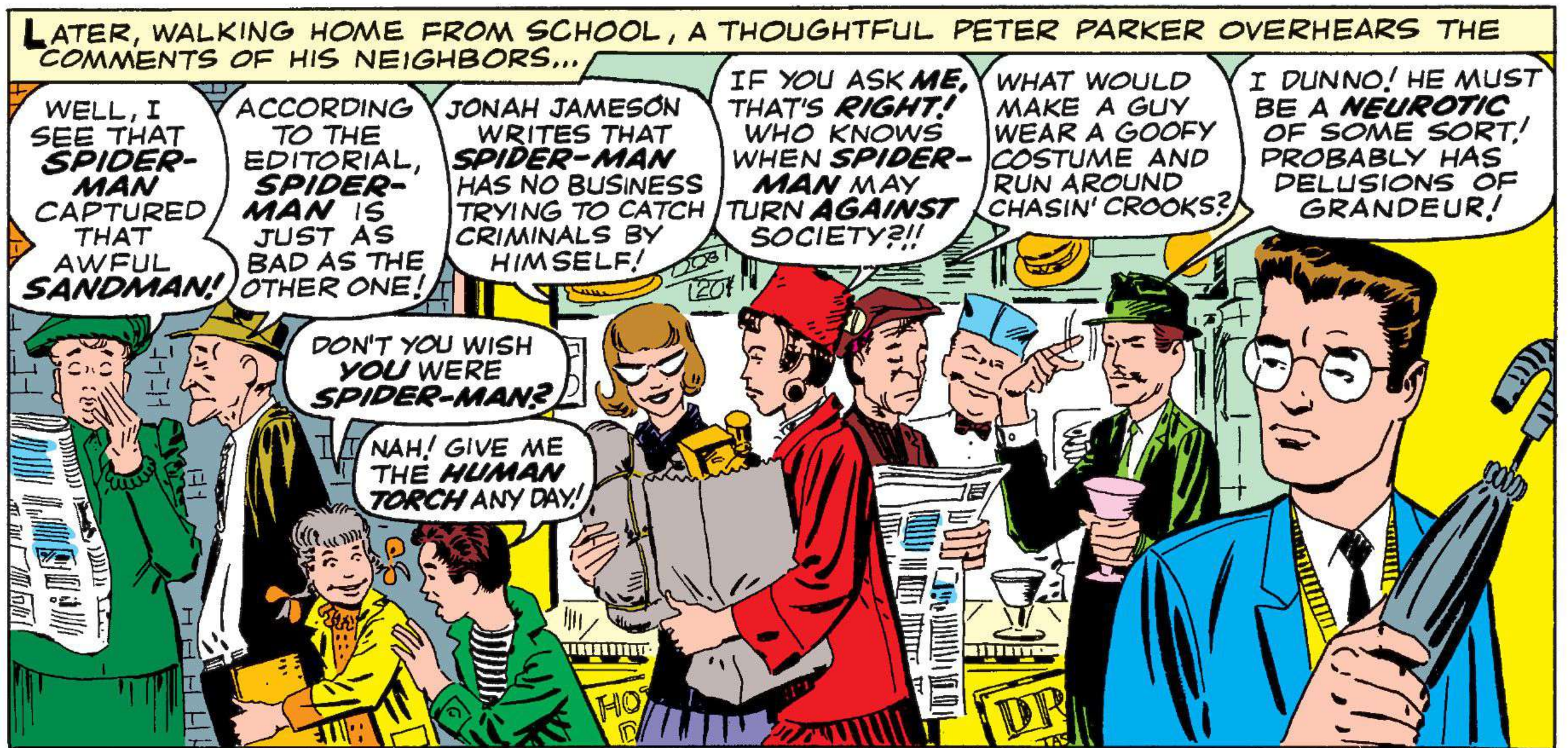
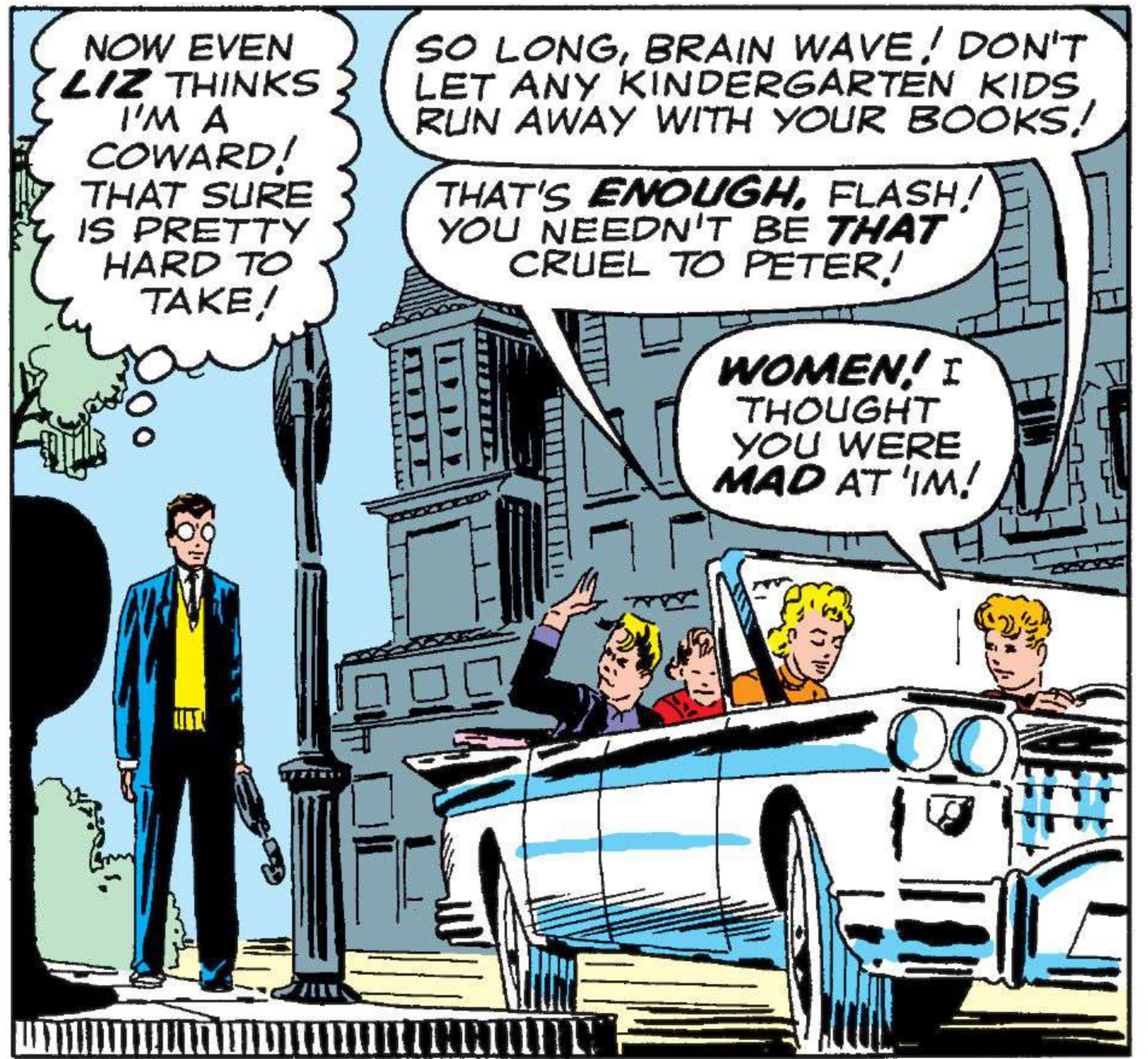
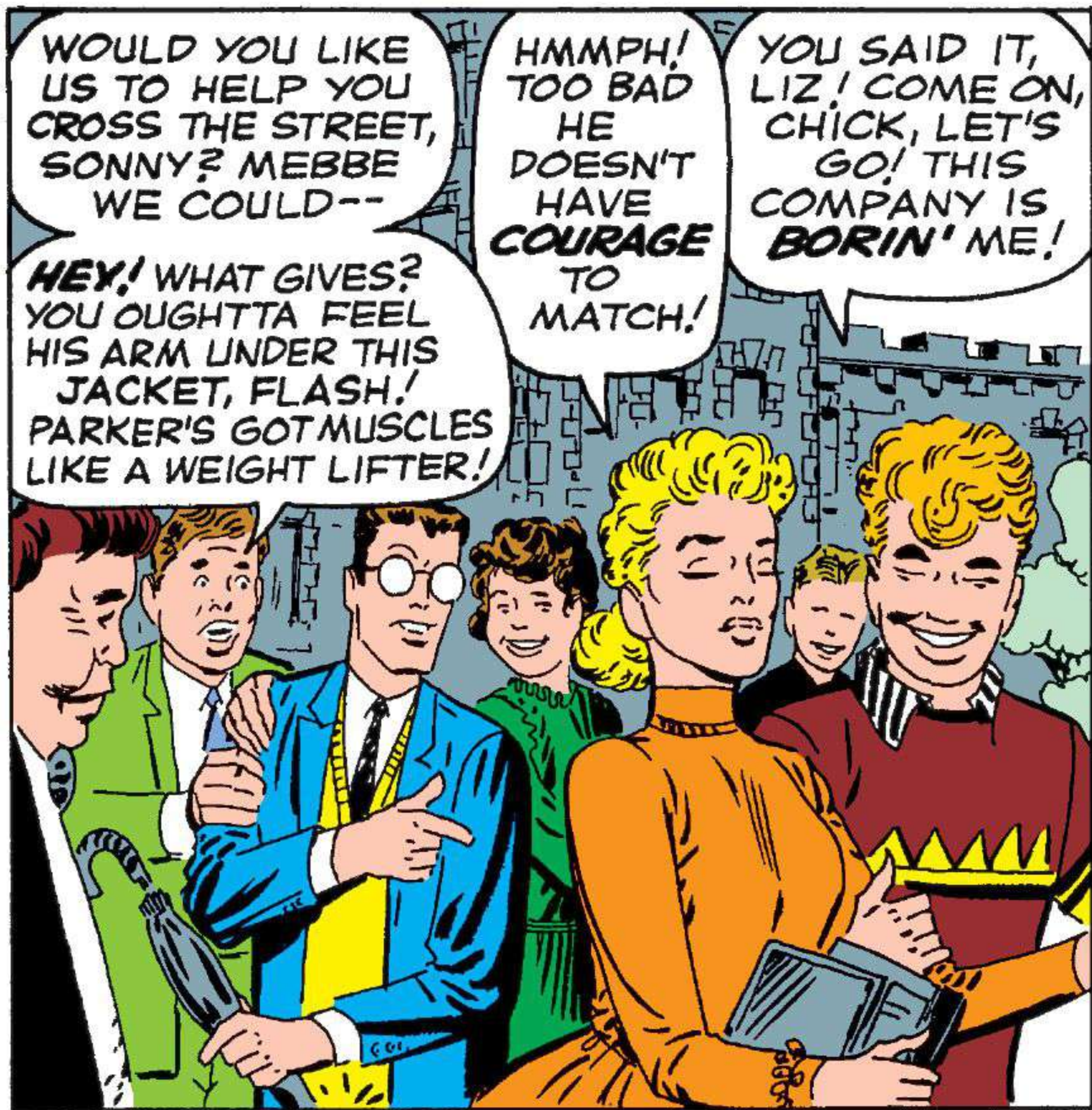
NOTHING AGAINST **SPIDER-MAN??!!** WHAT ABOUT THE **DAMAGE** DONE TO THE INSIDE OF THE SCHOOL?? WAIT TILL MY PAPERS WRITE AN **EDITORIAL** ABOUT HIM WRECKING PUBLIC PROPERTY!



IF **SPIDER-MAN** HAD LET THE **POLICE** HANDLE THIS, **SAND-MAN** COULD HAVE BEEN STARVED OUT OF THERE AND CAPTURED WITH NO FUSS, NO DAMAGE! BUT ONCE AGAIN **SPIDER-MAN** TRIED TO STEAL THE GLORY!

MR. JAMESON, THE **POLICE APPRECIATE SPIDER-MAN'S HELP!** YOU CAN PRINT WHAT YOU WANT TO IN YOUR PAPERS, BUT SOONER OR LATER PEOPLE WILL REALIZE YOU'RE JUST AIRING A PRIVATE GRUDGE OF YOUR OWN!







SPIDER'S WEB

Dear Stan and Steve:

Amazing Spider-Man #2 was again very good. I enjoyed this issue somewhat more than the first issue, probably because there was more action this time. Your two stories, "Duel to the Death with the Vulture," and "The Terrible Tinkerer," were both very good. I wish Spider-Man had gotten due credit for his capture of the Vulture (not to mention the prevention of the conquering of the Earth), and I'm still waiting to see the day when Jameson will swallow his nasty remarks about our hero. The picture of Spider-Man on page 9, panel 6 was one of the best pictures yet of our hero. By the way, thanks for the picture of Spider-Man in the corner of your cover. I'm glad that the Marvel group has received this custom. It adds an extra little touch to the cover. Well, I'll be looking forward to your next issue.

Dave Bibby
40 Hillside Ave.
Verona, N. J.

Thanks, Dave. Glad you like our cover trademark. We've received many nice comments from readers about it, and appreciate them all.

Dear Stan and Steve:

I have just read a terrific new comic that is worthy of reading over and over again. It's name: THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, and it is great. No question about it. Well, mebbe just one. In the first half of the book, Spider-Man's secret identity is Peter Parker, but in the second half, his secret identity is Peter Palmer! Which name is right?

Gary Anderson
East Northport, N. Y.

Gary, literally hundreds of puzzled fans have called our attention to that king-sized error! We don't know how it happened, but to set the record straight, SPIDER-MAN'S real name is Peter PARKER, and we're gonna do our best to see that it STAYS that way!

Dear Stan and Steve:

Stan, you have struck again. If I thought the first SPIDER-MAN tale was good, I should have waited till the second and third. WOW! and a few more for flavor! The only thing I truly regret is that Steve Ditko's art distorted the Four to the point where it was agony to this dyed-in-the-wool FF fan to see them. SPIDER-MAN he can do well — I honestly can't picture him any other way — but the others . . . I suggest any more feature appearances be made by S-M (Sub-Mariner's initials?) in other magazines.

Paul Moslander
Editor of *Jeddak*
1206 31 Ave.
San Mateo, California

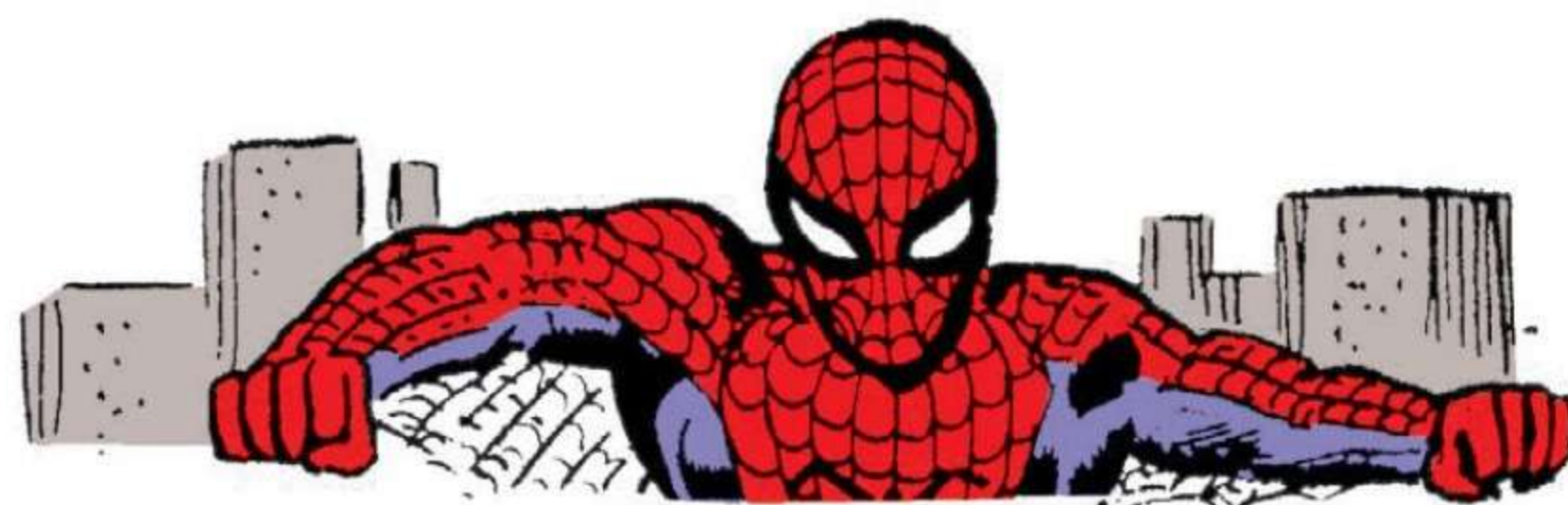
You're about to get your wish, Paul! Lately, it seems that SPIDER-MAN is all over the place! He has a brief guest appearance in the great FANTASTIC FOUR ANNUAL, on sale this summer . . . and he shares top billing with the HUMAN TORCH in the 72-page STRANGE TALES ANNUAL, also out this summer. We couldn't think of any excuse to squeeze him into the MILLIE THE MODEL ANNUAL, but we tried!

Dear Stan and Steve:

WOW! You really did it! *Amazing Spider-Man* #2 was spectacular! It was colossal! It was even better than your first great issue. You gave us new, new villains, both of whom are good. I think, however, that the Vulture was the best; he was terrific! I think he's even better than Dr. Doom, villain in *Fantastic Four*. The way the Vulture keeps looping around behind Spider-Man made me wonder if Spider-Man would defeat the Vulture at all! One of the things that makes the Spider-Man more believable and real is the fact that he does make mistakes at times. He wasn't very careful, at times, in his battle with the Vulture, and consequently, the Vulture was able to knock him out and dump him in a water-tower. Another time, Spider-Man was careless, and the Vulture almost sent him plunging to his death! But it's things like this that make the Spider-Man so great! I have some comments to make about the belt that Spider-Man now wears. As long as he uses it to keep web-fluid capsules in, it's all right with me. Just don't start having him keep a whole lot of scientific gadgets and other things in it! If you do, POW! Spider-Man is supposed to depend on his spider-like powers; he doesn't need a lot of other things in his battle against crime. Keep up the good work. Spider-Man is your best super-hero by a long shot!!! Why don't you drop the word, 'Amazing' from your title? It doesn't sound quite right.

Larry Brown
506 Handy Drive
Bay City, Michigan

We kept the word AMAZING out of sentiment, because it was part of the title of the magazine which SPIDER-MAN replaced. Also, it seemed to fit Peter Parker to a T! But, as usual, we'll let our fans be the final judge. What do you say, friends? Do we drop the word AMAZING from our title, or does it remain?



Dear Stan and Steve:

At last! Spider-Man has his own mag!!! I love your art, and the plots are terrific. His costume is the most glamorous and colorful in comic history and I think his mag will be the most liked throughout all of North America within six months. Don't get Spider-Man to join the FF though; he's the greatest by himself. He's the only super-hero I know who doesn't have money or live in luxury. I think that you should give him his own headquarters and maybe a Spider-jet with his insignia on it.

Waiting for the next issue,
Bill Schmuck
1140 Rock Street
Victoria, B.C., Canada

We're all for it, Bill, but where is a super hero without any dough gonna get his own Spider-jet?? Last we heard, he was trying to raise the down-payment on a bike!

CONTINUED . . .

Dear Editor,

I thought *Fantastic Four* was great, but the amazing *Spider-Man* is superb, excellent! Glad to see S. Lee and S. Ditko together on such a great mag. In my opinion *Spider-Man's* adventures are superb, great fantasy, plots, and artwork. If future issues are as good or better as No. 1, they'll be excellent. About *Amazing Adult Fantasy* (where SPIDER-MAN first appeared), what ever happened to it? I thought it was a great mag. The first issue of amazing *Spider-Man* was truly superb. Thanks for a great mag.

Arthur Davis Jr.
2809 Avenham Ave.
Roanoke 14, Virginia

You're more than welcome, Art! As for AMAZING ADULT FANTASY, we're glad of this opportunity to explain its demise to all those who've asked about it. Judging by your mail, those who read the mag LOVED it . . . but, judging by our sales, not enough readers BOUGHT A.A.F.! So, just for kicks, we decided to create a new super character (SPIDER-MAN) and throw away all the rules, making him as original and as different as we could. We planned to present him in the final issue of AMAZING ADULT FANTASY, just to satisfy ourselves. But, the rest is history! His surprise appearance jolted readers everywhere, and we were deluged with letters demanding that he be given his own magazine. So there you are . . . AMAZING ADULT FANTASY has now become AMAZING SPIDER-MAN, and a new super hero sensation has joined the Marvel galaxy of stars!

Dear Stan and Steve:

I can tell already that the SPIDER-MAN letter column will contain fantastic rave letters, claiming that you have the art of Dali, the writing of Shakespeare, and the greatest character since Ellery Queen. Probably you will also print one crank letter, saying, "SPIDER-MAN stinks because he is a real weirdo, so why don't you give him some more powers and a romantic interest, and have him talk to spiders and befriend them, and square him with the law so as he can be a fighter for crime." Even if you won't be as good or as bad as any of the letters you print, there is certainly no denying that you have something going for you. The cover was the best ever used on any magazine you edit, the interior art of Human Torch was especially outstanding, the best treatment he has had since the "good old days," the plots were sound, and the personal touches that make your stories what they are abounded. The way SPIDER-MAN "flies" by swinging from web to web, may displease the window cleaners who have to clear the webs away, but I hope you keep it, rather than have him jump or catapult himself until he is effectively flying under his own power. The scenes in the second story, on page seven, were especially effective. One gripe, and I will bring this letter to a close. Such quotes as, "My spider instincts sense danger behind me!", "That tingle I feel, my quarry is close," "I can still sense him in the dark" — all imply some vague power which has no reasonable explanation, and which is unnecessary to the story. Most super-heroes have such unexplained instincts which save the writer the trouble of thinking up a more reasonable and clever way out of plot difficulties, but I just hope you keep SPIDER-MAN out of this rut!

Rick Wood
Bellingrath, Southwestern
Memphis 12, Tennessee

Aw, come on now, Rick! WHAT rut? How many OTHER super heroes do you know with spider instincts?

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS SECTION:

Forgive us if we sound boastful, but we just can't help it. In the space of only three issues, SPIDER-MAN has become a comic magazine sensation! And so, we are proud to announce that, effective with this issue, the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN will be published MONTHLY!

- Many readers have written to request that SPIDER-MAN join the FANTASTIC FOUR, or team up with the HUMAN TORCH, or SUB-MARINER, or THOR, or almost any and every super character in our ever-growing lineup. However, for the time being, we would like to limit him to a few occasional guest appearances with our other heroes (which will be announced, when space permits). Stan and Steve have so many wonderful, unusual ideas for future SPIDER-MAN tales, that we don't want to do anything to interfere with them.
- Due to the unusually large demand for SPIDER-MAN, we hear that some fans have been missing issues because their dealers were sold out. May we suggest that you avoid disappointment by asking your dealer to RESERVE a copy for you in advance. Okay? Then we'll see you next month!
- Yours till Peter Parker picks a peck of pickled peppers!

LIKE SPIDER-MAN?
THEN YOU'RE SURE
TO FLIP OVER ↴

DON'T
MISS
IT!

THE STRANGEST SUPER-HEROES OF ALL!

THE
M
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the